

Stronger Practice Hubs FAQ

What's New.....?

We would like to thank everybody who has submitted questions to us either through the LA or Sector webinars or via email.

We have now updated the FAQ document which can be located on the [NCB website](#). The latest version of the FAQ is V2 updated 30.8.2022

We received lots of questions that asked very similar points and so have endeavoured to combine and summarise where possible.

If you have a question that is very specific to you individually please send it to us via sph@ncb.org.uk and we will respond to you directly.

If you have any further questions again please send these to us via the dedicated SPH email address – sph@ncb.org.uk

Below is a summary of the changes we have made to the FAQ and any additional questions we have added.

Changes to existing questions in the FAQ

- P10/11 clarification added about the recruitment timeline

Additional Questions

Application process / eligibility

- **For a partnership hub to be established do they have to be located close together? Could a group application be made over more than one locality within a local authority?**
- **Can a provider with several nurseries apply, or does the application have to come from one setting? Can a partnership application, span more than 1 LA?**
- **Are you scoring separately against each of the criteria in each question of the application form or providing one score for each question?**
- **Would you need to have a school as part of your partnership bid?**
- **Will all partners be expected to attend the interview?**
- **Can you partner with a childminding organisation or does it have to be a specific childminder with a URN?**

How will Stronger Practice Hubs operate?

- **What is the expected capacity for each hub? How many providers/settings will each hub serve?**
- **What is the time commitment to be a hub?**
- **How will the 2 hubs in a region serve/support such large geographical and diverse areas? How will the 2 hubs in a region work together and coordinate support?**

- How will Hubs have access to the range of information that LAs hold on providers, ensuring GDPR regulations are adhered to?
- How will the hubs measure the impact of their support/work?
- Will the Hubs be accountable to Ofsted regarding inspection outcomes for settings they are supporting?
- What will happen if a Hub receives a less than good judgement following an Ofsted inspection? Or if they have a serious investigation or registration suspended?
- Are LAs in receipt of any funding if they have a Hub in their area? How will LAs time be funded to support the SPH programme?
- Why can't childminders apply as the lead applicant?
- Can an early years setting rated Good or Outstanding apply, even if the school it is part of has a Requires Improvement rating?
- What types of evidence will be used to inform the framework for Stronger Practice Hubs?
- Will professional development programmes include those that support professionals to gain accreditation at Level 2/3/4?
- What is the anticipated legacy of the Hubs programme?