





Get your CPD provision independently rated for credibility with schools

Schools in England are having to learn how to buy CPD and improvement services in the market place. Most of the previously free, quango-provided improvement services have been dismantled. At the same time, those schools are under relentless pressure to improve and have only two effective routes for doing so – effective leadership and high quality professional development of the staff.

This is all good news for providers of CPD, or it would be if:

-  schools leaders could find out what they needed to know about your service;
-  they could be confident about its quality.




CUREE, in partnership with the [Good CPD Guide](#), can now solve both those problems providing schools with a valuable free service and providing you with the means of standing out from the crowd.

Contents

Quality Rating – in a nutshell.....	1
The benefits.....	2
What are these standards?	2
What are CUREE’s credentials for rating CPD provision?	4
How does it work? What evidence do you use?	4
What are the levels of service?	5
What next?	6

Quality Rating – in a nutshell






CUREE will assess your CPD provision against objective standards and award you a Rating:

-  from * to **** for overall quality
-  against four dimensions (aspect of provision); and,
-  for four ‘depth of impact’ indicators.

You can choose how broad or narrow a rating service you need – from Baseline Assessment, for one or more areas of provision, up to an inclusive Full Provider award. We also offer a confidential pre-award diagnostic check and a special reduced-price rating for sole traders.

The benefits

The benefits to you include:





-  **Accreditation** from CUREE, an organisation respected by the education system and recognised for its independence, rigour and deep expertise in evaluating the quality of CPD;
-  **Public recognition** in the [Good CPD Guide](#) and the CUREE and [SKEIN](#) websites;
-  **Certification** for 3 years (renewable);
-  An analysis (and a confidential report) of your provision against the **standards** and, optionally, **benchmarked** against other similar providers;
-  **Acknowledgement** of your achievement in the form of a certificate, badging for your website and documentation (and a wall plaque¹).

What are these standards?





CUREE will assess your provision against an array of criteria derived from the evidence about effective provision. We will assess and rate your service (including) specific examples of your provision. You will get an overall rating and a detailed one against each Aspect. The rating will bring together assessments for each of the components below.

Core Quality features at the level of the CPD provider

Assessed against the extent to which you:

-  use high leverage CPD methods;
-  illustrate or demonstrate what's possible
-  facilitate growing independence in the participants
-  secure consistency, coherence and high quality in your provision.





Features at the level of provision known to be important to pupil achievement:

-  Collaboration
-  Needs analysis
-  Depth of understanding developed
-  Attention to learner outcomes

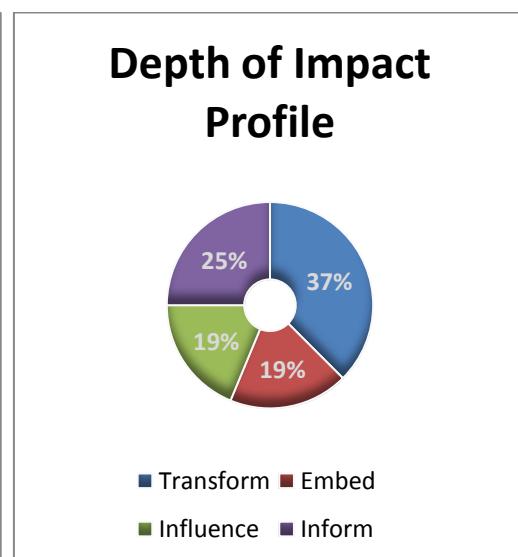
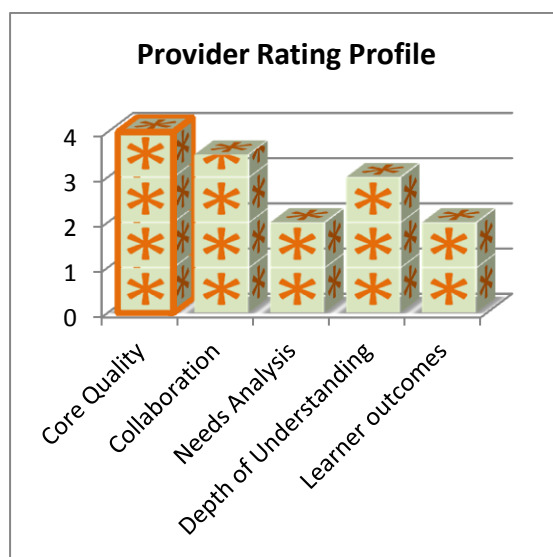
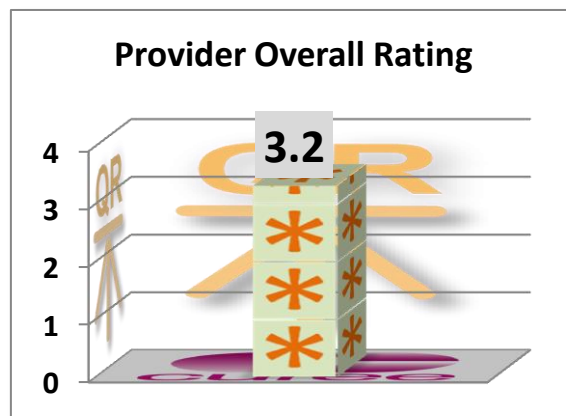
¹ at extra cost

Depth of impact

We will also examine the level of potential impact of the evaluated provision and assess its potential 'depth of impact' on pupil learning. For this there are four categories:




-  Informing
-  Influencing
-  Embedding
-  Transforming.

Of these 'transforming' is usually the hardest to achieve, takes longer and involves more resources. Provision of this kind has the potential to transform both the teacher's practise and the learning outcomes for his/her pupils. However, provision doesn't have to be transforming to be relevant, useful and value for money. For this reason, we will report your grades for provision separately from 'depth of impact' as the exemplar graphs below indicate:



What are CUREE's credentials for rating CPD provision?

There are three parts to this answer:

-  We are internationally recognised experts in CPD, teaching and learning and the curriculum. Our work on evidence-based practice and school/college improvement has been ground breaking. We have systematically mined the evidence from around the world on the teaching and learning approaches which really impact on pupil outcomes. We have analysed and summarised this evidence and turned it into tools and resources for policy makers, leaders and practitioners to use. We are trusted for our independent, reliable and well founded evaluations. A rating from CUREE really means something.
-  For more than twelve years we have appraised the international evidence about effective CPD. We have, for instance, undertaken [4 systematic technical reviews](#) of the international research of effective professional development. Drawing on this evidence we have, amongst other things, produced the National Framework for Mentoring and Coaching, advised British and overseas governments on the design of teacher and professional development standards and helped local authorities, schools, colleges and individual practitioners get the most out professional development.
-  We have applied that knowledge to evaluating professional development providers and their provision. For instance, we were commissioned by TDA to review the quality of provision of a very large sample (75) of CPD providers in England. These included large and small private providers, universities, awarding bodies, subject associations, specialist curriculum centres, local authorities and schools. The [summary report](#) of this exercise is available on our website. By combining our specialist research-based knowledge with this extensive examination of real professional development programmes and activities, we have been able identify a set of principles, benchmarks (indicators of likely impact on pupil learning) and standards which characterise good and excellent professional development.





This is the basis of the Quality Rating service we can now offer providers, schools and colleges.

Many of the providers evaluated by us have been so pleased with the reports we provided them that they use them in their marketing materials. Some described the experience as “the best CPD they’d ever had”




How does it work? What evidence do you use?

The first thing to say is that this is not an exercise in checking how well you can draw up the paperwork. This would impose an expensive bureaucratic burden on you and tells your clients little about the quality of your provision (and a lot about your

drafting skills). So we try to limit the paperwork to just documents you have already produced for your own purposes. Our expert researchers will:

-  ask you to provide copies/samples of documents which give some insight into various aspects of your provision (brochures, course design documents, course materials, evaluation forms etc) which we will analyse;
-  talk to you (usually in a visit but sometimes by phone if that makes more sense) and some other people in your organisation to get a richer picture of your provision and to answer questions not dealt with in your documentation;
-  observe ²at least one (and usually more than one) CPD session in action;
-  look at samples of your own participant feedback, talk to participants directly and/or survey a sample of them.

We will collate and analyse this evidence and produce from it:

-  a report for you assessing your provision against the evidence-based benchmarks including, where appropriate, suggestions of steps you might take to raise your Rating;
-  a comparison (anonymously) of your offer with similar provision offered by others;
-  an overall Rating plus a Rating profile and a Depth of Impact profile

What are the levels of service?

Our focus is on evaluating your service as a **provider** judged against objective, evidence based benchmarks. For this to be a reliable evaluation, we would need to look at a representative sample of your work. The larger and more diverse your programme, the bigger the sample would have to be and gathering data (e.g. by observation) from individual sessions is one of the more costly parts of the process.

Because of the diversity of the programmes of CPD providers, it's not possible for us to have a standard menu of prices so we will quote you a price tailored to your particular circumstances. We have produced two low cost options to enable you effectively to try out the service before committing to anything further. So the options available to you are:

1. **Full Provider assessment:** we look at your core organisation, systems and processes and assess a representative sample of your provision. How big this sample needs to be will vary according to the variety and complexity of your offer³. You will get a headline assessment report, a detailed analysis, an overall Full Provider Rating, a Rating Profile and a Depth of Impact Profile;

² we recognise that some provision (such as distance and e-learning) can't be 'observed' as such but we adapt the approach to suit the circumstances

³ and how efficiently we can gather the evidence. So, if we can look at multiple instances of your provision in one visit, we can reduce the cost and the charge.

2. **Baseline assessment:** this is the real deal but with verification limited to a sample of two instances (e.g. training sessions). You get a headline assessment report, an overall Rating and a Provider's Rating Profile which is identified as Baseline (i.e. carried out against a small and specific sample of your work). You would not get a Depth of Impact Profile (too small a sample);
3. **Pre-assessment diagnostic:** similar to a Baseline assessment but without a public Rating. This is the best option where either a) you are working to improve your provision (or some elements of it) and would like some external help in benchmarking it and homing in on the action areas; or b) you would like to test your provision against the benchmarks before committing yourself to a public Rating.

The pre-assessment diagnostic can be upgraded to a Baseline Assessment for a modest additional fee.


In addition to this, we recognise that some **sole trader trainers** have a very specific offering for which a very small sample (e.g. one session) would be sufficient. We also understand the financial pressures so we will provide the Quality Rating service for sole providers at an advantageous rate.

What next?

To find out more, to get prices and/or just to explore which of these levels of service most meets your needs contact CUREE using the contact details below.

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Natalia Buckler	024 7652 4036 (Option 4) Natalia.buckler@curee.co.uk
www.curee.co.uk/cpd-providers	

To find out more about the Good CPD Guide and the Teacher Development Trust, check their websites:

-  <http://goodcpdguide.com/>
-  <http://www.teacherdevelopmenttrust.org/>



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This offer is subject to some detailed terms and conditions which will be supplied to you prior to confirming your order

