



PATHWAY TO RECOGNISED TEACHING EXCELLENCE

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
QUALIFICATIONS

ABOUT PDQs

Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications (PDQs) are internationally recognised programmes designed to support educators and school leaders in developing their professional practice and enhancing the quality of teaching, learning, and leadership within their institutions. These qualifications provide a structured framework for reflective practice, practical application, and continuous professional growth, enabling candidates to strengthen their knowledge, skills, and understanding across key areas of education.

Delivered online through GenEx, the programmes allow practising professionals to study while continuing in their current roles. The qualifications are based on real-world practice, with candidates completing portfolio-based assessments that demonstrate their professional development, classroom or leadership experience, and the impact of their work within their educational context.

Throughout the programme, candidates benefit from dedicated mentorship, guided learning, and opportunities to collaborate with educators from different countries and educational environments. This approach ensures that learning remains relevant, practical, and directly connected to everyday professional responsibilities.

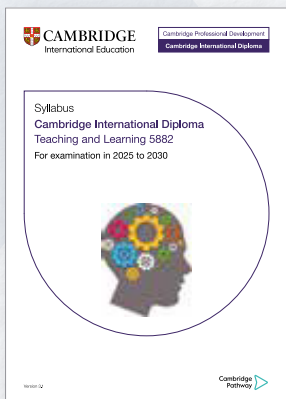
Cambridge PDQs are benchmarked against international higher-education frameworks and support progression to further academic and professional qualifications, including recognised university programmes and postgraduate study.

KEY BENEFITS

- Internationally recognised Cambridge qualification
- Designed for practising educators and school leaders
- Fully online with flexible study alongside employment
- Portfolio-based assessment with no written examinations
- Focus on real classroom, leadership, and professional practice
- Dedicated mentor support throughout the programme
- Enhances teaching quality, leadership skills, and school development
- Encourages reflective practice and continuous improvement
- Aligned with international higher-education frameworks
- Provides progression routes to higher qualifications, including postgraduate study



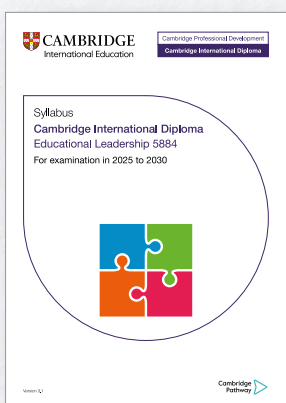
OUR CAMBRIDGE PDQs COVER FOUR AREAS:



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Levels: Certificate and Diploma

- Enhance your teaching to improve the quality of student learning
- Integrate new ideas and approaches into your practice
- Develop effective, reflective practices to promote active learning.



EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Levels: Certificate and Diploma

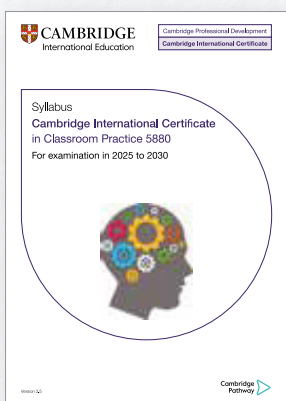
- Enhance the quality of your leadership
- Deepen your understanding of successful leadership and develop your skills
- Cultivate effective, reflective practices to advance your school.



TEACHING WITH DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Levels: Certificate

- Understand how to use digital technologies to make your teaching and learning more impactful
- Experiment and innovate with digital technologies in your own context
- Develop effective, reflective practices in leading learning using digital technologies.



NEW CLASSROOM PRACTICE

Levels: Certificate

- Enhance your understanding of the learning process and the latest research around effective education
- Discover how to apply new approaches and help your students make progress
- Develop your reflective practice to improve your teaching
- Designed for aspiring or new teachers and is only offered through universities or teacher training organisations.



WHAT IS THE STRUCTURE?

WE OFFER CAMBRIDGE PDQs AT TWO LEVELS:

Certificate – for current teachers or leaders, this course is benchmarked to FHEQ level 4 and provides a strong pathway for further professional development.

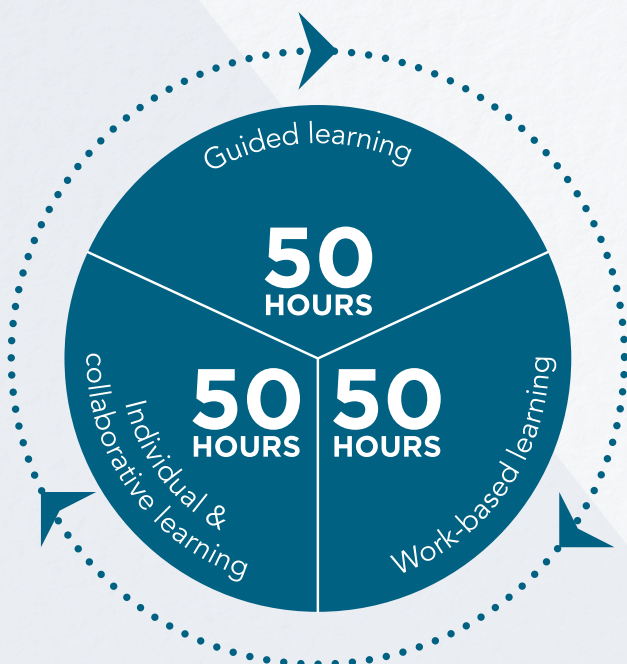
Diploma – for teachers or leaders who want to engage with content at a deeper level, this course is benchmarked to FHEQ level 5 and provides an excellent opportunity to gain an internationally recognised and valued diploma leading to potential higher education opportunities.

Cambridge PDQs are made up of three modules.

Module 1 can be taken on its own as the certificate. Candidates can then progress to Modules 2 and 3 to complete the Diploma. The Diploma can also be taken as a standalone qualification.



MODULE STRUCTURE



THE TABLE SHOWS WHAT IS INVOLVED IN EACH MODULE.

Learning hours: 150 hours

Programme duration: 20 weeks per module

Assessment: Portfolio of evidence of practice, learning and reflection

Evidence length: 3600 words with work-based records



COURSE OVERVIEW

These programmes are designed to support educators and school leaders in developing their professional thinking and practice, and in enhancing the quality of teaching, learning, and leadership within their institutions. It is intended for practising professionals and focuses on the development of knowledge, skills, and understanding across key areas of education, including classroom practice, leadership, professional reflection, and the effective improvement of learning environments.

The qualifications are practice-based and encourages candidates to apply new ideas directly within their own educational context, supporting continuous professional growth and measurable improvement in professional performance.

DURATION

The duration of the programme depends on the candidate's experience and current professional role. Experienced educators typically complete each module over approximately 20 weeks, while candidates with less experience may require a longer period to meet the practical and reflective requirements of the programme.

ASSESSMENT

Candidates are assessed through the completion of a professional portfolio of evidence, which includes:

- Evidence of Learning
- Evidence of Reflection
- Evidence of Professional Practice

The completed portfolio demonstrates the candidate's development within their own working environment and is submitted to Cambridge International Education for formal assessment. There are no written examinations. Assessment is based on real-world application, reflection, and professional impact.

DELIVERY METHOD

The programme is delivered online through the GenEx learning platform, providing access to interactive course content, guided activities, and collaborative engagement tools.

Each candidate is supported by a dedicated mentor throughout the programme to guide their development, provide feedback, and ensure progress toward successful completion.



COURSE OVERVIEW

(CONTINUED)

ACCREDITATION & PROGRESSION

Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications are globally recognised qualifications awarded by Cambridge International Education.

These qualifications are benchmarked against the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland:

- Certificate level qualifications align with Level 4
- Diploma level qualifications align with Level 5

Successful candidates may progress to further professional or academic study, including recognised postgraduate programmes (PGCE) and university pathways.

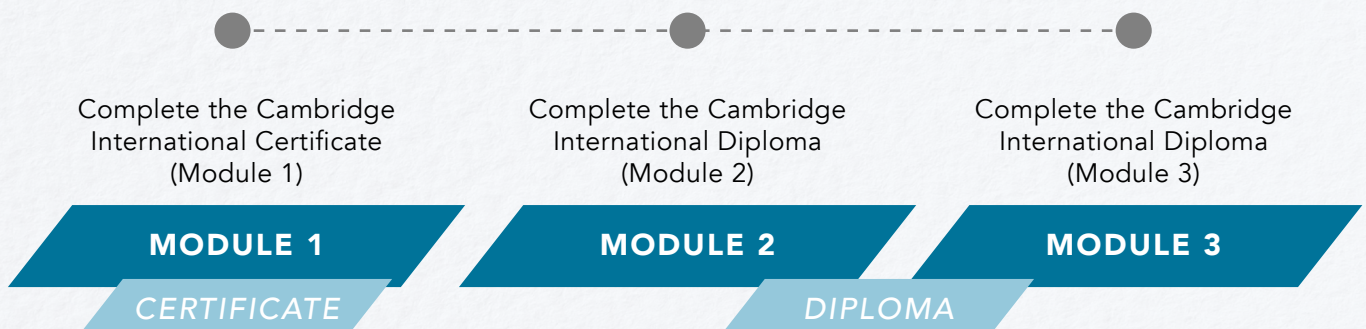
ADMISSION

Entry requirements depend on the module being taken, but typically include:

- A recognised school-leaving qualification or equivalent
- Progression through modules in sequence where applicable
- Current employment in an educational institution such as a school, college, university, or training centre
- Active involvement in teaching, training, leadership, or educational support roles
- Responsibility for planning, delivering, supporting, or evaluating learning
- Regular access to a group of learners or a relevant professional context
- English language competence at CEFR Level B2 or equivalent (minimum IELTS 5.5 recommended)



PROGRESSION AND RECOGNITION



RECOGNITION

Cambridge PDQs are respected and valued by international schools worldwide. Recognised for their rigorous standards and practical impact, PDQs support teachers in developing high-quality teaching practices aligned with global best practice. Many schools and educators across diverse regions trust PDQs to build professional capacity, foster leadership, and enhance learner outcomes.

Cambridge PDQs also carry formal academic credit in the UK.

- The certificate is accredited with 15 credits at Level 4 of the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- The Diploma is accredited with 30 credits at FHEQ Level 5.

This recognition provides a clear pathway for educators seeking further academic or professional progression, supporting their continued development and career advancement.



FROM PDQ TO PGCE

PATHWAY OVERVIEW

The Cambridge Professional Development Qualification (PDQ) provides educators with a structured, practice-based entry point into postgraduate study. Through GenEx's partnership with Anglia Ruskin University (ARU), candidates who complete the PDQ can progress into a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) - moving from a Cambridge-certified professional qualification into a recognised postgraduate credential.

THE FOUR-STEP PATHWAY

STEP 1:

ENROL IN CAMBRIDGE PDQ

Teaching & Learning | Educational Leadership

FHEQ L4 / L5

STEP 2:

PDQ QUALIFICATION OUTCOME

Certificate (Mod 1) | Diploma (Mods 2-3)

FHEQ L4 / L5

STEP 3:

APPLY FOR PGCE

Application & Enrolment through GenEx and ARU

Pathway

STEP 4:

COMPLETE PGCE WITH ARU

Postgraduate Certificate in Education - online

FHEQ L7

WHY THIS PATHWAY WORKS

- Portfolio-based assessment
 - no traditional exams
- Designed for working educators
- Classroom-rooted learning at every stage
- Entry into a recognised UK postgraduate qualification
- Globally portable credentials at each level



UNDERSTANDING THE QUALIFICATIONS

CAMBRIDGE PDQ — PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT QUALIFICATION
FHEQ LEVEL 4 (CERTIFICATE) OR LEVEL 5 (DIPLOMA)

WHO IT'S FOR

The PDQ is offered in two specialist tracks, each designed for a different stage and focus of an educator's career:

Teaching & Learning is aimed at classroom practitioners who want to deepen their understanding of pedagogy, curriculum design, and student outcomes - all grounded in real classroom evidence. It suits teachers at any stage, from those new to reflective practice to experienced educators formalising their expertise.

Educational Leadership is designed for educators moving into or already holding leadership roles. It focuses on strategic thinking, school improvement, staff development, and leading change within an educational context.

WHAT IT MEANS PROFESSIONALLY

Both tracks signal that your professional practice is grounded in recognised, evidence-based frameworks endorsed by Cambridge International Education. For Teaching & Learning candidates, it demonstrates pedagogical depth and a commitment to improving student outcomes. For Educational Leadership candidates, it signals readiness for strategic responsibility while also supporting current leaders in strengthening and formalising their practice. It is increasingly valued by schools and networks that expect leadership to be intentionally developed, not just assumed.

WHERE IT LEADS

The PDQ Certificate and Diploma align to FHEQ Levels 4 and 5, providing a structured foundation in professional teaching and leadership practice.

Within this pathway, candidates may progress toward the Anglia Ruskin University PGCE, subject to meeting university entry requirements, including appropriate prior academic qualifications. For candidates without an undergraduate degree, additional approval processes or alternative pathways may apply.

To further support progression, a Level 6 education degree pathway will soon be introduced, providing an accessible route for candidates who are not yet eligible for direct entry into a PGCE.



PGCE POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION

WHO IT'S FOR

The PGCE is for educators who have established classroom experience and are ready to formalise their expertise at postgraduate level.

WHAT IT MEANS PROFESSIONALLY

A PGCE from a UK-accredited university is one of the most widely recognised teaching credentials in the world. It signals postgraduate-level mastery of educational theory and practice, and opens doors to senior teaching roles, curriculum leadership positions, and opportunities in countries and institutions that require formally accredited qualifications.

WHERE IT LEADS

The PDQ Certificate and Diploma align to FHEQ Levels 4 and 5, providing a structured foundation in The PGCE sits at FHEQ Level 7 - postgraduate level. Candidates who complete the PGCE through ARU can use it as credit toward a Master of Arts in Education (MA Ed) or similar qualification, should they wish to continue into full postgraduate study. It is, in other words, both a destination and a stepping stone.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Progression to the PGCE is subject to ARU entry requirements, including relevant teaching experience and supporting documentation.



BENCHMARKING

Cambridge PDQs are externally benchmarked by the UK based organisation, Ecctis, who have established themselves as an internationally trusted and respected reference point for qualifications and skill standards. The table below shows how the PDQ Certificate and Diploma compare internationally:

	UK	India	UAE	Oman	South Africa	Serbia
Framework	Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) / Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)	National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF)	National Qualifications Framework for the UAE (QFEmirates)	Oman National Qualifications Framework (OQF)	National Qualifications Framework (NQF)	National Qualifications Framework of Serbia (NQFS)
	4	4.5	5	5	5	5
Cambridge PDQ Certificate	Level 4 Certificate, Higher National Certificate (HNC), Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)	Undergraduate Certificate	Associate degree, Diploma	Certificate	Higher Certificate	Certificate of Specialised Exam, Master Craftsman Certificate
	5	5	6	6	6	6.1
Cambridge PDQ Diploma	Level 5 Diploma, Higher National Diploma (HND), Foundation degree, Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), Higher National Diploma (HND)	Undergraduate Diploma	Higher Diploma, Advanced Diploma	Diploma	Diploma, Advanced Certificate in Education/National Professional Diploma in Education	Diploma of Higher Education

TESTIMONIALS

"The Cambridge International Certificate in Teaching and Learning course that I completed with GenEx is one of the best professional development programmes I have ever taken. It has had a lot of positive impacts on my classroom practices. As an educator, it helped me grow professionally and taught me how to conduct an active learning class. Thanks to the course, I can now write an excellent lesson plan, efficiently assess my students' learning, give feedback and help them achieve the objectives of my lessons.

As a message to educators, never stop learning! And if you are able to complete this course with GenEx, don't hesitate. Thanks to the GenEx team for their dedication to helping us."

Yaya Dama, Burkina Faso

"I greatly appreciate an opportunity to develop my professional career through the Cambridge professional development qualifications offered online through GenEx. When the school I'm teaching at offered me to attend the course 'Exploring Teaching and Learning', I accepted with no hesitation. This has proved to be an excellent decision. The course has provided a great number of new teaching methods and ideas, which have improved my teaching practice. Through the course, I had a chance to learn and implement active learning methods in my practice, so now, my teaching is student-centred, where my students are motivated to learn, enjoy the lessons and find them informative and funny at the same time. This, in my opinion, is the most significant positive impact of the course.

I highly recommend this course to other educators as I am sure they will explore some new concepts and ideas in teaching and learning. This can considerably contribute to a better understanding of their students' learning and needs, and ultimately make them better educators."

Maida Ljubijankić, Bosnia & Herzegovina



TESTIMONIALS

"I have always desired to get a teaching certification from Cambridge, and the GenEx platform has made it possible for me to achieve it. I had a fantastic mentor who was very encouraging and gave constructive feedback on all of my tasks. I would also like to acknowledge the programme leader, who was meticulous in checking my portfolio to ensure that I met all of the requirements.

The course materials, structure, and timeline, were holistic and convenient to follow. Another important aspect of this course would be the online forums that enabled the candidates to share their thoughts, collaborate on ideas, and learn from their experiences.

I have enrolled for Module 2 and will be continuing with Module 3 next year. It has definitely been a fruitful journey with GenEx. Thank you, GenEx, for this excellent professional development opportunity!"

Carol Rajan, Malaysia

"A massive thank you to the GenEx team for guiding me on my PDQ journey. I have grown so much as a teacher and person throughout Module 1. The programme has given me much greater confidence in inspiring my students and adapting to their needs. I have been introduced to a variety of active learning methods, and the importance of ongoing assessment has been reaffirmed.

Developing a reflective practice and encouraging my students to reflect on their learning has profoundly impacted my teaching. Overall, I cannot recommend the programme enough and am looking forward to deepening my practice in Module 2."

James Ball, South Africa



TO ENROL OR FIND OUT MORE,
PLEASE EMAIL INFO@GENEXINSTITUTE.COM

