


Leading Learning for Special Educational Needs Community Interest Company  
Company Number 11397712

	Terms of Reference	December 2020
	<b>Provider Partnership Group</b>	

**Background and Rationale**

From September 2014, the NASENCo programme ceased to be funded nationally and provision has now been opened beyond the original number of previously accredited providers, enabling any provider to both market and deliver NASENCo programmes from this time onwards. University accreditation is mandatory, therefore all providers of the NASENCo Award require university validation to market and deliver the programme. (SEND Code of Practice 2015, Ch6, Paragraph 85-86)

The NASENCo Provider Partnership exists in the interest of safeguarding the integrity and high quality standard training to be offered to all SENCOs requiring mandatory training. The Working Group (a small group formed from members of the Provider Partnership) has developed a Quality Standard Framework (QSF) for delivery of the NASENCo Award on behalf of the Provider Partnership. A professional and collegiate approach to the work of the Provider Partnership and Working Group maintains the reputational value of the work of the organisation and the NASENCo Award. Members are trusted to use their best endeavours to uphold the aims of LLESENDCiC and the integrity of the NASENCo Award.


Ownership of the quality and improvement of the future Award remains with Provider Partnership. The Provider Partnership also has a role to sustain and develop a national programme of SENCO provider professional development.

**Membership**

Membership of the Provider Partnership is open and accessible to all interested providers. New providers are welcome to attend one meeting of the Provider Partnership prior to submission of their application for the Quality Standard (QS). The annual fee for new members will be payable when submission for QS is made. Following a successful submission for QS, the provider will become a member of the Community Interest Company (CIC). When Partners become members, their institution's name will be included on the LLESENDCiC website list of approved providers who have achieved the Quality Standard (QS) and they will be entitled to use the LLESENDCiC Provider Partnership logo in their course information and publicity. Should a provider fail to meet the QS standard required they will be provided a date for resubmission. If resubmission is missed, membership will lapse at the end of the calendar year and will only be renewable upon successful QS achievement. Any extenuating circumstances relating to membership and QS will be considered on an individual basis by the Working Group.

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Annual membership fees are payable in January, however, if a provider initially joins the PP mid-year a half yearly fee will be applied. A half yearly fee will also be applied for all providers joining the PP less than 6 months before the start of the following full year's fee in January. Annual fees are £600 per year. There are no refunds for members who wish to leave the PP mid-year.

Use of the LLENDCiC Provider Partnership logo and inclusion on the LLENDCiC website list of approved providers is contingent on up-to-date QS and fee payment.

## Responsibilities

The Provider Partnership responsibilities are to:

- Commission and agree activities and governance of the Working Group
- Engage and/or commission collaborative research, with an emphasis on development and improvement of the award
- Sustain and develop a national programme of NASENCo Provider professional development
- Monitor and evaluate the Quality Standards Framework
- Liaise with the DfE to ensure the sustainability of a high quality NASENCo programme
- Ensure the visibility and viability of the NASENCo Provider Partnership
- To determine and review the overarching guiding principles and system processes of the Working Group and Quality Standards Group.


## Quality Standards (QS)

It is the responsibility of all members of the PP, on a rolling programme, to be assessors for assessing the QS applications of fellow providers. For more detail please see the QS Group Terms of Reference.

## Attendance at Provider Meetings

Provider Partnership whole day meetings are held twice a year. These can be either hosted by the provider institutions or they can be set up as online meetings. All providers should attend at least one Provider Partnership meeting each year. Attendance at provider meetings is for academic staff only from each provider institution.

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**Review**

The Provider Partnership will be self-regulatory. Decisions regarding the future of the Provider Partnership are taken by the whole group and/or delegated to the Working Group on behalf of the Provider Partnership. These terms of reference will be reviewed annually.

**Ways of Working**

The Provider Partnership employs an Administrator.

The Provider Partnership employs a Facilitator. The role of the Facilitator is determined and agreed by the Working Group. This role includes acting as a liaison between the Working Group, the Quality Standards Group, the Provider Partnership, and the Administrator.

The Provider Partnership meets two times per year.

There is no payment for attendance at Provider Partnership meetings. Refreshments and travel costs are not provided nor reimbursed.

The administrator will minute the meetings and prepare documentation both for the meetings and after the meetings.

**Sharing of Information**

The Administrator is responsible for sharing of all documentation with the Provider Partnership by email.

***These Terms of Reference should be read alongside the Terms of Reference for the Working Group, the Quality Standards Group and the Ethical Guidance.***