

## EEF - Working Through Others

*Supporting school-facing organisations to embed evidence use in their work across multiple settings*

*The Education Endowment Foundation is an independent charity dedicated to breaking the link between family income and educational achievement. We do this by supporting schools, nurseries, and colleges to improve teaching and learning through better use of evidence.*

### **Overview**

As part of EEF's commitment to supporting evidence-use across the system, we are seeking to work collaboratively with a small number of organisations whose work involves providing support for schools and education settings. The aim of this new work, taking place between May 2024 and July 2025, is to help develop organisations' understanding and use of evidence. We are looking to work alongside leaders who will embed evidence-informed approaches across their organisation's systems, processes and practices. Such organisations might include, but are not limited to: Local Authorities, Multi-Academy Trusts and providers of professional development and school improvement support (outside of NPQ / ECF delivery).

We will do this by working co-constructively with organisations, aiming to combine EEF's materials and approaches with the professional experience and expertise of its leaders. We will also draw on support from our Research Schools Network, 33 schools from across England who act as a bridge between research and classroom practice by bringing evidence to life through high quality exemplification.

We are particularly keen to work with leaders and organisations who have an interest in building their organisational capacity to use well-evidenced approaches and support schools / education professionals to do so through their work. For example,

- **Evidence-Informed Processes**, such as effective implementation / professional development
- **Evidence-informed Practices**, such as high-quality teaching / learning behaviours

Through monitoring and evaluation we will look to capture learning so that all involved can develop practical insights and about the approaches.

As this is a new area of work for the EEF, we anticipate it will support us to:

- *Understand ways in which the education system in England, including the middle-tier that supports settings and professionals, uses evidence in their work with setting and professionals.*
- *Understand if dedicated support for organisations has the potential to support developments in the way the system uses evidence to improve outcomes.*
- *Share learning and any resources created as part of the project, so that the benefits reach beyond those directly involved.*

We believe that there are a range of organisations who seek to create change across a number of schools through their work and would be well placed to do to this work, learning with us.

### **Overarching Criteria / Conditions the project:**

Working across settings, your organisation will:

#### **1. Share EEF's mission**, as evidenced through:

- A clearly articulated belief that better use of evidence can break the link between family income and educational achievement
- Demonstrable ways in which your organisation works to meet the need of socio-economically disadvantaged pupils in your community / communities
- A clear determination from the highest leadership to shift the organisation towards supporting evidence-use to tackle disadvantage in the system

#### **2. Have clear ideas how working with EEF could support organisational development**, as evidenced through:

- A clear articulation of what your organisation wants to achieve through its use of evidence, including priority areas for development
- Dedicated capacity for co-creating training materials, resources, content etc to be tested by leaders and teachers.

- Commitment to monitoring and evaluation of the work, including supporting the development and application M&E tools for use within and across the organisation.

### 3. Commit the organisation to embedding evidence, as evidenced through:

- Capacity and buy-in from leaders across your organisation, including those in senior (decision-making) positions, to engage fully with the partnership
- The influence needed to use the organisation's systems, policies and infrastructure to deliver school and classroom-level change
- The motivation to collaborate with the EEF and the Research School Network to co-construct evidence-informed solutions to organisational priorities and build capacity

*Note: EEF may need to take into account the capacity and expertise of the EEF and the RSN and geography in making our decisions, as well as the balance and range of project content and partner types.*

#### Application Process

1. Complete short application form (deadline 5pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024)
2. Short online interview/discussion for shortlisted applicants (we expect to conduct these W/B 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024)
3. EEF due diligence and scoring / assessment (w/b 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024)
4. Final decision (by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May)

*Please note that if your organisation is currently involved in working in partnership with the Education Endowment Foundation and/or the Research School Network, you should speak to your contacts at the Education Endowment Foundation and/or the Research School Network before you consider submitting an application.*

We are inviting organisations to submit their short written application detailing their interest in the project and alignment with the criteria set out above. We will then conduct a short online discussion with shortlisted organisation in the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 before final decisions are taken. Please also note that we may contact you to discuss your application.

Please do so by completing and submitting [this form](#) by **5pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.

#### Further information

##### **Scope of work/offer**

This is new work for EEF and, as part of the process we expect to scope the offer with applicants. We envisage working with 3-5 applicants depending on the nature and scale of any proposals.

To give some more ideas of what this collaborative work is might include, EEF is expecting to:

- Provide expertise, training and support through the EEF team and RS (at no cost to the participating organisation)
- Provide access to evidence and EEF resources

The EEF is not expecting to provide direct funding to the participating organisations taking part in this work.

High Level Theory of Change:

