



# **Pedagogy Pioneers**

**2022-2023**

**Information Booklet and Application Form  
for Teachers (P1-S6)**

## What is the Pedagogy Pioneer Programme?

The Pedagogy Pioneers programme is open to those who show **excellence and innovation** in learning, teaching and assessment.

Pedagogy Pioneers have a deep professional understanding of pedagogy which is informed by professional reading, research and enquiry.

The programme enables Pioneers to share practice beyond their school and local authority to support system wide improvement:

*'Being part of the Pedagogy Pioneers programme has been an invaluable and highly enjoyable experience. It has been a pleasure to collaborate with teachers who are so enthusiastic about learning and teaching. I have particularly enjoyed working with people from across the local authorities in the South East, something which I hadn't previously had the opportunity to do. The programme has been rewarding and challenging. I would recommend it to any teacher who loves to learn!'*

**Kat Mathers, Midlothian Council**

Engaging in the programme has a positive impact on teachers' own professional development and empowers them to develop their own pedagogy and that of their colleagues:

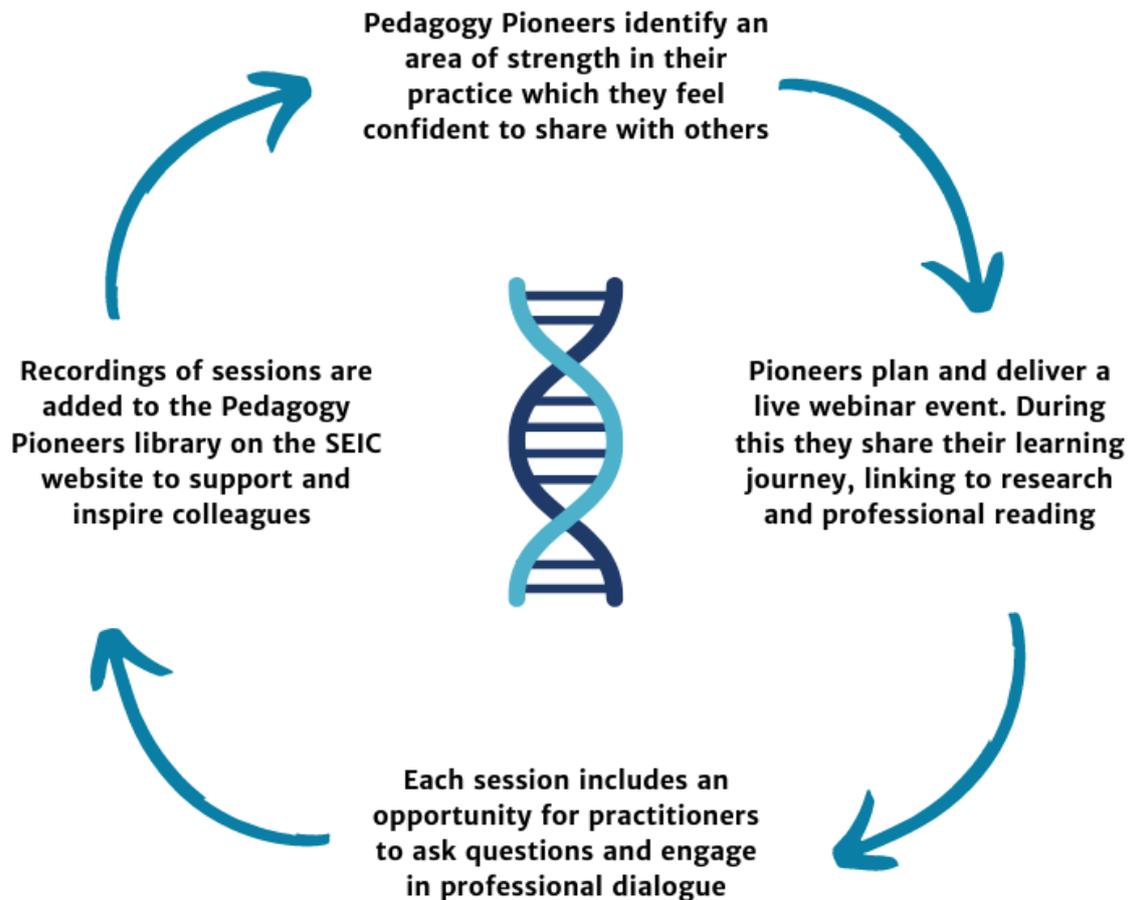
*"Being a Pedagogy Pioneer supported and broadened my own understanding of play by engaging critically with different literature. In my aspirations to move into middle leadership, it has given me the confidence to support colleagues within my school and across local authorities. This has been such a valuable experience which has allowed me to share my journey with others. This in turn has now led to me acting as a support to others on the same journey."*

**Nicki Mullen, Midlothian Council**

*“Being a Pedagogy Pioneer has made me feel valued and appreciated as a class teacher. It has allowed me to share my passion for play and inspire others to begin their journey too. I don't profess to be an expert, but I was made to feel like I was and that was so empowering to me.”*

**Leanne Sweaton, Fife**

## The Pedagogy Pioneers Process



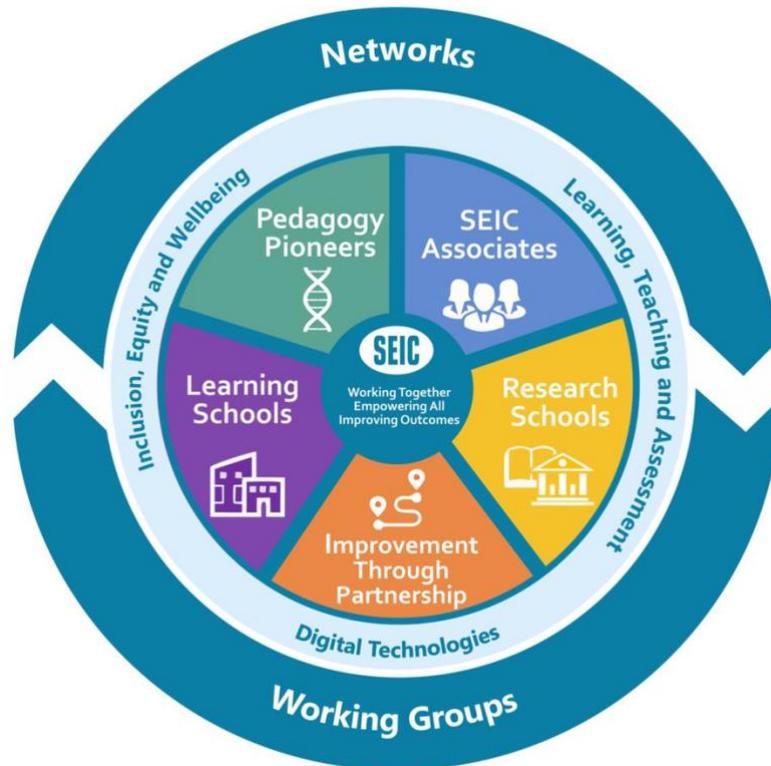
The SEIC team can support Pedagogy Pioneers with digital presentation skills and other bespoke learning as required. The school/setting of each Pedagogy Pioneer will be given funding to provide time back in lieu. This would cover the planning and preparation of the session, the webinar/presentation and time to engage in professional discussion.

*“I felt appreciated when my headteacher asked if I would consider taking part in the Pedagogy Pioneer sessions. I felt nervous about the presentation but passionate about my chosen focus. The SEIC team were very supportive and gave helpful sessions. They responded quickly and positively and this helped me take the step to do it, even when I felt out of my comfort zone. After my presentation I felt I had made a difference.”*

**Zoe Currie, Scottish Borders Council**

## Why Pedagogy Pioneers?

Scotland has started a collective endeavour to build an empowered, connected, self-improving education system to achieve excellence and equity for all children and young people as set out in the National Improvement Framework (NIF) and is referenced in our national and regional policy. The South East Improvement Collaborative uses an 'Empowered System' model to enable collaboration and drive improvement:



Pedagogy Pioneers is a differentiated educational strategy. It encompasses a broad sweep of professional learning opportunities at different levels in the system to promote increased pedagogical expertise. It can be described as a way of moving beyond independent to interdependent or mutual learning which almost all research suggests provides greatest impact for improvement and raised attainment and achievement.

## Why now?

Internationally, improving practitioner quality has been identified as a key policy area which is necessary for improving student outcomes (OECD, 2015).

A consistent finding in educational research and theory is that improved outcomes are achieved through a focus on high quality learning and teaching (Hargreaves and Fullan, 2012; OECD 2015; Dimmock, 2012). <http://www.oecd.org/education/school/improving-schools-in-scotland.htm>

In the Scottish context, a key area for improvement identified in the NIF is:

'Collaboration between teachers and practitioners across local authorities to develop skills to support professional learning and drive innovation and improvement in learning and teaching'

Pedagogy Pioneers is uniquely placed to provide this collaboration and connect practitioners from across the South East of Scotland to strengthen and invigorate improvement journeys.

## Pedagogy Pioneers Recommendation Form

Local  
Authority:

### Personal details

First name:

Surname

School/Setting:

Address:

Postcode:

Daytime  
telephone  
number:

Mobile  
number:

School  
e-mail  
address:

What area of practice could you offer as a Pedagogy Pioneer to support other practitioners? E.g. Raising attainment in literacy, high quality interactions, feedback that moves learning forward, assessment and moderation, equity and inclusion, wellbeing, etc. (max. 350 words)

What stage/s in the school/setting would your expertise support?

Please give details of professional learning which has supported you in your Pedagogy Pioneer offer.

Please use the space below to describe the impact this has had on your practice and outcomes for children and young people: (max. 350 words)

Supporting statement from line manager in recommendation of practitioner as a SEIC Pedagogy Pioneer. (max. 250 words)

Name: Designation: Date:

Signature:

### Declaration

Statement to be signed by the applicant:

I confirm that all the information given by me on this form is correct and accurate.

Signed:

Date:

Endorsement by Local Authority Representative:

Name:

Post:

Signed:

Date:

Please return electronically to your SEIC QIO no later than 27 May 2022

Successful Pedagogy Pioneers will be expected to attend 2 twilight induction sessions.