

The Developing Teacher aims to take your development one step further. So far, activities have been suggested which are, on the whole, short and designed to fit into and around your busy schedule. Development can also include long-term projects, and you will probably find there are points in your teaching career when you can dedicate yourself to taking these steps: you can do an MA, PhD or other practical or theoretical course, take a sabbatical year and do some research, do a job exchange or secondment for a year, and so on.

The three projects we are suggesting are not ongoing in that sense. They are, rather, 'elongated activities'. They have a defined ending and outcome, because that probably makes them easier and more motivating to do: they work from the premise that development is best conceived not as a continuous line, but a collection of moments. They encourage you to create and compile these moments, pause, reflect, celebrate, and then move on.

Three longer-term projects

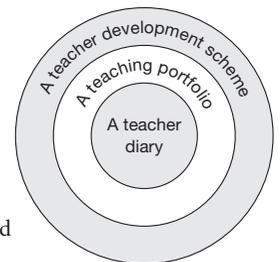
Here, then, we are looking at three projects which take a certain amount of time to complete: weeks or months, rather than days or hours.

- In the first project you keep a diary, where you reflect and comment on activities you have carried out.
- In the second and third projects you can incorporate a selection of these activities, combine them with other material from your professional practice, and collate and reflect on them.

Both the portfolio project and teacher development scheme encourage you to link up and group together elements, creating a whole which provides shape, form and direction to the smaller steps you take.

Three circles of further development

These three projects can be visualised as concentric circles, moving from the individual and possibly private to the public and collaborative. Because they take some time, it is important to give them some careful consideration *before* making a commitment to seeing them through. The activity *Decisions, decisions!* at the end of circle five should have helped you to choose a particular project, by exploring the possible benefits and considering the drawbacks.



Some background information will first familiarise you with what each project entails and how it can help your development as a teacher. A detailed guide will then provide the support you need to help you get the most out of each one, as you step forward.