

1. FINDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES ONLINE



What is it?

In the past, we generally found resources for professional development in reference books, from colleagues and formal training events. Today, the digital world gives us access to a lot more and these resources are usually available for free. The challenge is finding these resources and keeping a record for future reference.

What types of resources are available?

Online resources for professional development fall under seven main categories:

Webinar



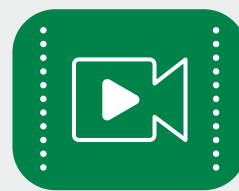
Online seminars; hour-long sessions with lots of ideas

Blogs



Short, insightful articles with practical teaching ideas and tips

Videos



Recordings of talks, seminars, conferences, video blogs and lessons

ebooks



Free publications on activities, research and approaches

Online courses



Flexible and online courses on a variety of topics

Self-assessment



Tools to evaluate and reflect on your development

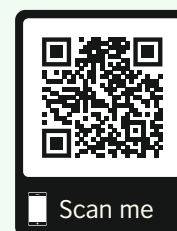


This guide uses Quick Response (QR) codes. To scan these codes, look for the app in Google Play or App Store and download it for free. To access resources, open the app and hold it above a QR code.

Finding professional development resources online

Step 1

Go online and do a Google search for websites, webinars, blogs etc. Make a list of sources that you find interesting. Scan this QR Code to access the **TeachingEnglish** website.

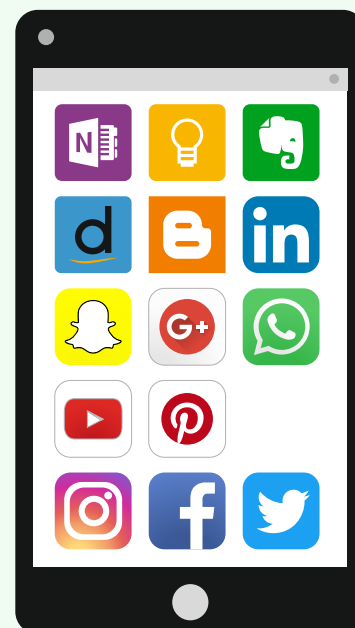


Step 2

When you find something that interests you, save it using one of these tools: Evernote, Google Keep, Diigo and OneNote. These tools can be used as mobile apps or as a website on a computer. You can also select a browser add-in for any of these tools, to save links and articles with just one click. The first three tools are free of cost; OneNote is free for use on smartphones.

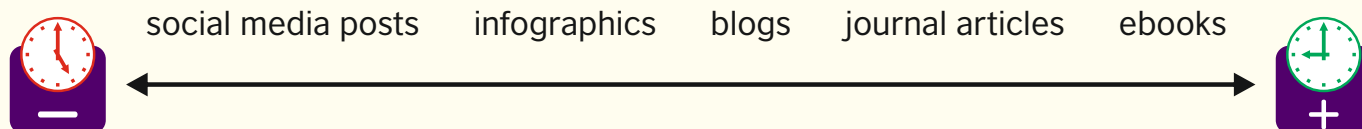
Step 3

Read, watch, listen, attend or complete the resource you've saved. Reflect on it in your journal or blog, share ideas with your colleagues and by participating in an online community of practice of your choice. Remember sharing and discussing ideas is also an important part of CPD.



Making time for professional development

Not enough time to read? Use this scale to decide how to prioritise your reading.



Choose resources that help you achieve your development goals and fit your schedule. Remember that it's better to do a little regularly.

This guide is linked to the British Council CPD Framework for Teachers.

It develops the professional practice:

Integrating ICT: developing effective strategies for locating appropriate digital content.

Stage: Awareness