

Frequently Asked Questions

Confidentiality and intellectual property

1. What about confidentiality and intellectual property?

Unless otherwise agreed by all participants all meetings take place without confidentiality agreements. If you know something is confidential, do not tell!

2. What about confidentiality? Who will find out what we have been talking about and what conclusions we have come to?

The Consortium is confidential. If minutes are taken or reports on findings written, they remain in the Consortium. The only exception is that usually we make known to outsiders who is 'in' the Consortium and sometimes a Consortium will agree on a joint statement or press release about its activity or findings. The latter can be useful when individual companies do not want to step forward with a controversial point of view.

Consortium Meetings

1. How many people can my organisation send to Consortium meetings?

Up to 3 depending upon demand. Delegates can be switched, but CfBI recommends that continuity is maintained. We are used to seeing delegates with Innovation, R&D, Business Strategy, Intellectual Property, Corporate Partnerships, Business Development, Marketing, Training roles and Country Responsibilities. When a company hosts the Consortium, we have been known to bend this rule.

2. How often are Consortium meetings or events held?

The frequency of Consortium meetings or events can vary. It is common for the Consortium to organise regular meetings, workshops, and conferences throughout the year.

3. What is the timing and location of meetings?

We poll members to try to find a consensus on meeting dates. Meetings tend to start early morning (we have a tradition of meeting informally over dinner the night before) and finish before 17:00. While the default location for meetings will be Cambridge (20 mins from London Stansted Airport) delegates often offer to host meetings and the Consortium may well meet anywhere in Europe. Assume 8 hours away from your desk. You will usually be within reach of a Wi-Fi zone.

4. Can I influence the agenda of the Consortium?

Yes, you can! Talk to us! We welcome input but will have to respect the consensus of all delegates. In our experience, this is usually not a problem.

5. What activities and initiatives does the Consortium undertake?

The Consortium organises events and workshops to facilitate knowledge exchange and research collaboration to support the incorporation of EdTech solutions into education. Additionally, site visits to Centres of Excellence provide opportunities for hands-on experiences.

Joining and payment

1. How can I get involved in the Consortium?

To get involved you can reach out to the organisers of the Consortium and express your interest in joining. They will provide further details on the eligibility of your organisation and the application process. In case you have questions regarding the payment process please see our [registration form](#) or reach out to us.

2. Can I join after the launch or only for parts of the programme?

Subject to places being available, yes you can. But in order to be fair on those who signed up early you will be charged the full fee.

3. Can I 'drop in' for just the odd meeting and pay less?

No.

4. If I pay and you cancel the Consortium, do I get my money back?

Yes!

5. If I pay and do not show up to Consortium meetings, do I get my money back?

No.

6. What are the benefits included in the membership fee?

The membership fee typically grants access to the Consortium's network, events, workshops, resources, and collaborative opportunities, face-to-face and on-site meetings. In particular, the members of the Consortium are invited to attend the Cambridge Innovation Summit on 26 September 2023.

Location

1. I'm based in mainland Europe, can this work for me?

Absolutely, Ryanair and many other airlines fly from most parts of Europe to London Stansted and we will try to schedule events to help with your logistics.

2. I'm based in the USA. Can I still participate e.g. by video link?

To date we have not had a good experience with members participating by video link. The Consortium's processes have a strong workshop element, and the building of strong relationships is important to us. We think this still works best as a contact sport. However, on one-off occasions or with an advanced video link set-up we continue to review this.

Other

1. How much time will be required by the delegates?

Assume that a delegate who participates in the full programme will need to apply 6 person days in the upcoming year. You are allowed up to 3 delegates (who can, even though continuity is strongly recommended, vary on different occasions). If you start to create projects or apply some of the tools from the Consortium this can increase.

2. Is the Consortium unbiased, or is it just a selling vehicle?

The CfBI and European Diplomats (the organiser of this particular Consortium - www.european-diplomats.eu) as an independent entity does not have an interest in promoting a particular product/organisation. It does not hold IP or sell consultancy. However previous consortia have seeded lobbying for policy, standards, promotion of markets and pressure on (desirable!) organisations to join the Consortium.

3. What are the benefits of participating in the Consortium?

By joining the Consortium, you gain access to an extensive network in education and in EdTech, including contacts within the University of Cambridge, as well as across the UK and Europe. This enables you to engage with professionals, build lasting partnerships, and leverage resources for advancing education through technology.