

National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership (NPQSL)

What is the NPQSL programme?

The qualification is part of the National College's leadership curriculum, which offers more flexible development opportunities to support leaders at every stage of their career. The curriculum has five levels, with each level offering a choice of modules that can be combined to pursue a nationally recognised qualification or studied alone. Levels one to three are currently available.

NPQSL sits at level two of the leadership curriculum. It is designed to support participants in becoming highly effective senior leaders with the skills, confidence and knowledge to contribute to the strategic development of the school or organisation as part of the senior leadership team.

To achieve the qualification, participants will need to complete two Essential modules ("Succeeding in senior leadership" and "Closing the gap") and two Elective modules chosen from a wide range of options.

Included in the cost of the programme will be:

- ◆ Online materials for the two Essential modules and two Elective modules
- ◆ One face to face day for each module
- ◆ Online discussions and support
- ◆ Peer group meetings or support sessions from your mentor
- ◆ A 360 degree diagnostic development tool
- ◆ Assessment

There is the opportunity to buy in additional coaching support if required.

Each module can be completed in approximately 40 hours although you can spend longer using the online materials for your own learning if you so wish.

What modules are available?

The modules provide access to a wide set of high quality leadership resources to challenge and support participants at senior leadership level.

All modules reflect the recent and significant changes in schools and national policy.

The University of Herfordshire are a partner within Leadership East and negotiations are underway regarding the accreditation of these programmes at Masters level.

Essential Modules

Closing the gap
Succeeding in Senior Leadership

Elective Modules

Improving the quality of teaching
Research and development
Effective whole school management
School self evaluation
Leading professional development
Leading change for improvement
Leading in a diverse
Effective partnership working

The modules for the Senior Leadership pathway can also be grouped within the three key strands of the leadership curriculum:



Leadership East offers individual elective modules which have been proving popular as part of school and partnership CPD programmes. Please contact us for further information.

Who is NPQSL for?

NPQSL is aimed at experienced team leaders with wider responsibilities traditionally associated with senior leadership roles.

It is suitable for:

- ◆ Deputy or assistant heads
- ◆ Experienced senior leaders who wish to further their knowledge and skills
- ◆ Experienced middle leaders who are ambitious for and seeking promotion to a senior leadership role
- ◆ Specialist Leader of Education (SLE)
- ◆ Senior leaders in a federation with responsibility areas across several schools
- ◆ Someone who has responsibility for supporting other schools
- ◆ Senior leaders working in schools and academies who are not qualified teachers (for example bursars, HR officers)

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How is the programme assessed?

Although individual modules are not assessed, there will be the requirement of one extended school improvement task to encompass school improvement priorities and closing the gap priorities. This extended school improvement task will need to draw on learning from all the modules studied. The work will be undertaken over at least two terms to enable you to show evidence of the impact of your leadership.

How long does it take?

The qualification can take between 6 and 18 months to complete with each module requiring between 40 and 50 hours of learning. The majority of senior leaders are likely to spend 12 months completing the programme.

Where will the programme be held?

Currently we plan to deliver all the sessions at St Peter's, however in the future it might be possible to host some sessions in partner schools to better utilise the expertise within our networks.

There is an induction session, a day for each module and an end of course event. On our current cohort these sessions have been streamlined into afternoons running from 12:30-17:30.

When will the programme be held?

The next NPQSL cohort will start in the Autumn term.

Are places limited?

Each cohort needs between 10 and 18 candidates to be viable.

How much does NPQSL cost?

The National College recommended price for NPQML is £1,345.

Strategic Partner Schools

Discovery TSA will cover up to 50% of the cost of all applicants from strategic partner schools following other costs after scholarship application. Other discretionary payments may be considered. It is expected that at the end of the course research work and professional development outcomes will be shared within the partnership.

Is funding available?

To help with the costs of the programme, the National College is offering a range of scholarships. Scholarships for NPQSL are allocated on a "first come first served basis" and participants will be able to indicate that they require a scholarship when they register for the programme. Leadership East are allocated a number of scholarships each year.

There are three types of scholarships available to participants from Maintained schools.

(Maintained schools include community schools and colleges, foundation schools and colleges, voluntary-aided schools and colleges, voluntary-controlled schools and colleges and local authority nursery schools, secure units, academies, free schools and advisers/consultants employed by local authorities or diocesan authorities)

100% Scholarship

100% Scholarship for schools with less than 100 pupils and secondary schools below 500 pupils - £1400

50% Scholarship

50% scholarship for schools with between 101 and 250 pupils - £630

Part Scholarship

Part Scholarship for schools over 250 pupils - £118

Applications

Please contact Mike Gregory if you are interested in joining the cluster for NPQSL and we will work with you to ensure that the application process and the running of the course are designed to best suit each cohorts needs and ambitions.

<http://www.leadershipeast.org.uk/npqsl.html>

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