

SCHOOL LEADERS

Programme

# International Leadership Learning Programme

**Experience, learn from and share  
international perspectives**

A development opportunity  
for senior school leaders

**NCSL's International Leadership Learning Programme offers a unique opportunity to reflect upon leadership in an international context and investigate a particular leadership theme pertinent to school and system wide development. The programme builds on and replaces the former International Placement for Headteachers (IPH) and is open to headteachers and other senior school leaders who will learn together and learn on behalf of others.**

The International Leadership Learning Programme not only offers senior school leaders an excellent professional development opportunity, it is also designed to have a positive impact on school and system development. It is designed for those who wish to develop their own leadership capacity and that of others and who are committed to implementing changes to benefit their school/organisation and sharing their learning to benefit others.

Applications identifying areas of interest can be made individually or as part of an existing group. A suitable destination will be researched and identified that will explore powerful leadership practice, challenges and local solutions in a chosen area internationally. Participants will then return to influence their school/organisation, locality/region and through effective dissemination share learnings with the wider education system.

## Aims of the programme are to:

- enable participants to develop their own leadership capacity and that of others
- ensure participants' schools benefit from knowledge and understanding of leadership practice overseas
- enable the wider education system to benefit from learning on school leadership through a dedicated dissemination and knowledge management strategy

## Programme benefits

- enhanced research and enquiry skills for participants
- increased knowledge and understanding of school and system leadership gained alongside other school leaders both from England and overseas
- improved motivation to apply and continue in headship
- confidence and ability to implement change
- opportunities to share learning with others
- school leaders contributing to a self-improving education system

## Programme features

- working with an existing or new collaborative group
- two facilitated workshops focusing on research and enquiry skills and preparing for the international element
- a 7–10 day international group study visit, which includes introduction to the country and education system, shadowing of a school leader and daily evaluation meetings
- a facilitated post-visit workshop to review learning and focus on what next
- contribution to a group report and dissemination strategy
- implementing individual action plans and leadership projects
- a mini-conference with other groups to disseminate learning and impact
- high quality learning support materials

## Eligibility

Applications may be received individually, as a group (of 9–12) or as a smaller collaborative to form part of a larger group. Applicants should be:

- a headteacher
- a deputy or assistant headteacher
- a member of a school's senior leadership team including school business managers

### AND:

- be able to commit to three face-to-face workshops, the dissemination mini-conference and the 7–10 day international visit
- be able to demonstrate the ability to disseminate and embed learning from the study visit within and/or beyond own organisation

Due to limited numbers, previous participants of the IPH programme will not be eligible.

Other members of the school community may apply as part of a group application, however they will need to cover the costs of their participation. This could be a school governor, a member of local authority staff, a member of another agency working with schools or a school business partner.

Applicants and their schools must be operating within the context of the enquiry theme.

Applicants must identify their expected learning outcomes in the following areas:

- their own leadership development
- school/organisational development and improvement
- pupil learning and well being
- benefits to the wider community/locality/networks
- contribution to the wider system

## Selecting your enquiry theme

Applicants may apply for one of the programme's pre-determined themes or select a theme of their own which supports at least one of NCSL's strategic goals of:

- developing excellent school leadership to transform children's achievement and well being
- developing leadership within and beyond the school (developing leaders who think and act beyond their own school)
- identifying and growing tomorrow's leaders

Please note that if an enquiry theme is too specific it may be difficult to find a suitable group or destination.

The pre-determined themes are:

- models of primary school organisation and patterns of leadership
- new models of leadership and governance/system leadership
- the role of school business managers and officers in leadership teams
- the leadership of change and change management in schools
- 14–19 curriculum
- succession planning
- leading personalised learning
- creating sustainable environments and leading sustainable schools

## Cost

NCSL currently subsidises the majority of the costs of the programme including the workshops in England, international travel and insurance, accommodation overseas and programme support materials. Schools are required to contribute by covering the cost of travel to and from the airport and workshops before and after the visit and subsistence costs whilst abroad.

Other members of the school community (school governor, member of local authority staff, member of another agency working with schools or school business partner) will be responsible for meeting the full costs of the study visit and will not be covered by any subsidy policy from NCSL. Non subsidised group members must still meet the selection criteria to be accepted onto the programme.

## How to apply

Online applications will open in June 2008 but will be co-ordinated by an NCSL Leadership Network regional leader. To express an interest in the programme please call or email your regional leader directly.

For more information please visit [www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershipnetwork](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershipnetwork).

**Publications and resources  
also available from NCSL:**

**NCSL programmes** for school leaders at all levels. [www.ncsl.org.uk/programmes](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/programmes)

Publications and resources available to download and order. [www.ncsl.org.uk/publications](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/publications)

The Leadership Network brings together the experience and ideas of school leaders across the country to create a powerful focus for change and development in school leadership. [www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershipnetwork](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershipnetwork)

The Leadership Library is a free unique resource bringing together some of the best leadership and management thinking from around the world. [www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershiplibrary](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/leadershiplibrary)

The Learning Gateway is a single access point to all NCSL's online learning tools and resources. It provides access to talk2learn, a vibrant online community of over 120,000 members. [www.ncsl.org.uk/learninggateway](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/learninggateway)

The Tomorrow's leaders today campaign is about finding, developing and keeping great headteachers. [www.ncsl.org.uk/tomorrowsleaderstoday](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/tomorrowsleaderstoday)

ECM Leadership Direct is an online Resource exploring the implications for Every Child Matters for schools and school leaders. [www.ncsl.org.uk/ecmleadershipdirect](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/ecmleadershipdirect)

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