The Golden Thread Teaching School Hub

Best Practice Network

Proudly part of Supporting Education Group

Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs

NPQ or MA? Your Fast-Track Pathway to Both Starts Here

Fully funded programmes:

- School Leader Programme (Level 5 Apprenticeship with NPQSL)
- Headteacher Programme (Level 7 Apprenticeship with NPQH)
- Executive Leader Programme (Level 7 Apprenticeship with NPQEL)

"The Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs are a superb route for gaining new leadership knowledge and applying it with immediate impact."

Laura Saunders, Lead Facilitator

Accredited NPQ provider

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Department for Education

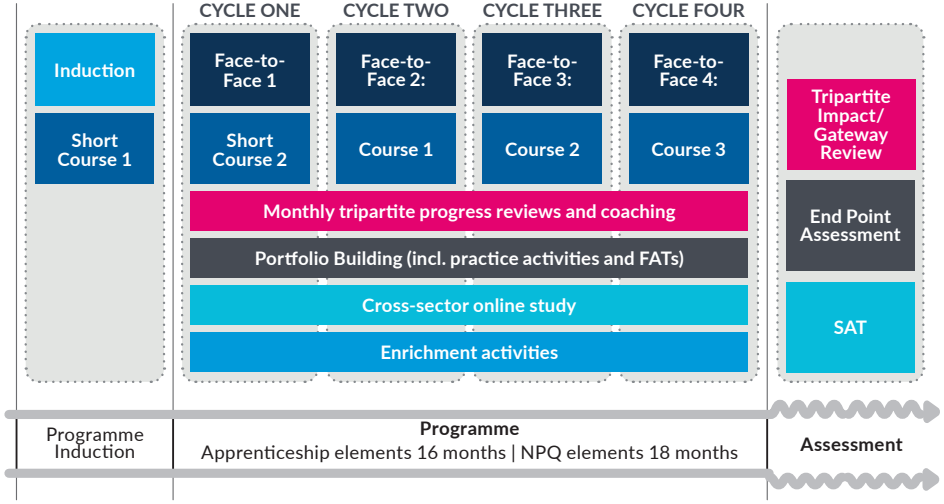
Best Practice Network

Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs from Best Practice Network

The Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs offer you the chance to gain a National Professional Qualification alongside a Level 5 or Level 7 apprenticeship standard, with full funding available from the Apprenticeship Levy.

Best Practice Network's unique approach to the Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs delivery means participants access individualised training based on areas they have identified as needing improvement. Our cyclical programme structure utilises Face-to-Face training, online learning and 1:1 coaching to deliver a comprehensive learning experience that fits around busy teacher timetables.

Programme structure



The Headteacher Programme has 1 extra Face-to-Face day
The Executive Leader Programme has 2 extra Face-to-Face days

University of Chester

Master's Fast-Track

An MA in Educational Leadership is closer than you think

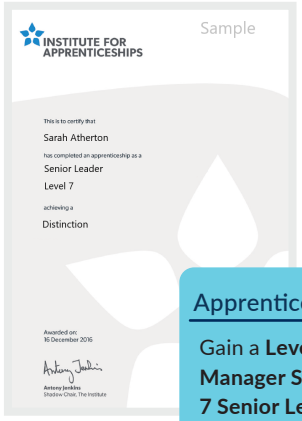
We've partnered with the University of Chester to offer a new Master's fast-track opportunity. By completing our Executive Leader Programme with NPQEL or Headteacher Programme with NPQH, you will earn 120 credits toward an MA in Educational Leadership. That's 80% of your Master's degree, completed as part of your NPQ.

Participants will have the option to complete a 60-credit dissertation module online for just £3,210, a fraction of the usual fee, with full support from the University of Chester tutors.

One Programme, Two Certificates

The Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs give learners the opportunity to gain a National Professional Qualification alongside an apprenticeship. By combining these, we have created programmes which allow learners to gain two awards concurrently.

The Department for Education's flagship NPQs are professional development courses designed for teachers and leaders to enhance their skills, advance their careers and improve school outcomes. Meanwhile, the apprenticeship standards provide learners with comprehensive cross-sector knowledge in management and leadership practices.



Apprenticeship Standard

Gain a **Level 5 Operations Manager Standard** or a **Level 7 Senior Leaders Standard**

NPQ

Gain the **NPQ for Senior Leadership, NPQ for Headship** or **NPQ for Executive Leadership**

What are the benefits?

Monthly coaching

Throughout the programme you will benefit from 1:1 coaching, group coaching and have an experienced tutor to guide you throughout the programme.

Face-to-Face events

Participants train alongside a diverse group of fellow educators with lots of different perspectives. It's a great opportunity to learn from each other's experiences during group sessions and collaborative practical tasks.

Practice based learning

Candidates undertake school-based activities and are assessed on how they apply learning in their day-to-day role, helping develop and refine organisational management and leadership skills.

Cross-sector experience

Candidates access cutting-edge theory, resources and delivery from thought leaders and leading practitioners from all sectors of the economy.

A wider view of leadership

Candidates apply cross-sector management and leadership practice to their school context providing a broader perspective on organisational improvement.

Apprenticeship Levy funded

These programmes make use of the Apprenticeship Levy, giving participants the opportunity to gain a funded NPQ and leader apprenticeship.

Funded by the Apprenticeship Levy

Fully funded

These programmes are fully funded through the Apprenticeship Levy, offering all participants the chance to complete a funded leadership NPQ while simultaneously earning a valuable apprenticeship standard.

Funding support

Best Practice Network will support your school to access funding for the Leaders Apprenticeships with NPQs.

If you are from an Apprenticeship Levy paying school, funding will be drawn down directly using your Apprenticeship Service Account.

If you are a non-Levy paying school, the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will fund 95% of the course fee through the 'co-investment' scheme.

Delivery locations

Delivery venues are largely provided through our national network of teaching school hubs and multi-academy trust partners.

Participants applying from one of our partner areas will be allocated to that group for the Face-to-Face events*.

In addition to partner groups, we also have a number of groups located according to the geography of the participants that register, helping minimise travel time.

* Subject to group viability

Off-the-job training

Off-the-job (OTJ) Training is an important part of all apprenticeship programmes. It is the time spent during working hours learning and applying new knowledge that is outside of the learner's normal day-to-day duties.

BPN Apprenticeship Performance Coaches and in-setting Apprenticeship Mentors will support learners in identifying opportunities for evidencing OTJT.

Examples of OTJ training include:

- Training events
- Inset days
- Coaching and mentoring
- Reflective learning
- Shadowing
- Networking and moderation events
- Project activity
- Research
- Interactive online learning
- Revision

"Lots of information and great discussion with other people aided my learning and helped me review my own leadership."

School Leader Programme

Level 5 Apprenticeship with NPQSL

The School Leader Programme is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Senior Leadership (NPQSL) to the Level 5 Operations Manager Standard.

Who is it for?

The School Leader Programme is for teachers and leaders who are, or want to be, senior leaders with cross-school responsibilities.

Benefits

- **Gain** the specialist expertise needed to tackle school improvement priorities
- **Support** the development of a positive, predictable and safe environment for pupils
- **Join** monthly 1:1 coaching sessions, receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- **Learn** about operational and strategic leadership and management at a whole school level
- **Attend** 4 Face-to-Face events and collaborate with likeminded peers
- **Gain** a Level 5 Apprenticeship and the NPQSL award
- **Apply** learning and have an impact in your setting immediately

Qualification elements

INDUCTION STAGE

- Enrolment and induction
- First day of learning webinars

DEVELOPMENT STAGE

- Monthly tripartite coaching-focused progress reviews
- Portfolio building & project (incl. formative assessment tasks)
- Education and cross-sector online study
- Enrichment activities
- Project proposal writing

ASSESSMENT STAGE

- Gateway/impact review
- SAT: NPQ case study written response
- EPA 1: Project report
- EPA 2: Portfolio of evidence and professional discussion

Entry requirements

- Either 2 full years experience of teaching following achieving QTS/QTLS or 2 full years experience in current role following completion of Level 5 (or equivalent)

AT A GLANCE

Face-to-Face events
4

This Course Awards
60 Master's Credits, NPQSL, Level 5 Operations Manager Standard

Course Duration
18 months

Course start
1 intake a year starting in autumn

COST

~~£9,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship Levy funding

Scan here to learn more and apply.

Learn more and apply at **bestpracticenet.co.uk/school-leader-programme-with-npqsl**
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email **npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk**

"I am very grateful to my apprenticeship performance coach and facilitators for their advice, support and listening ear over the time of the course."

Headteacher Programme
Level 7 Apprenticeship with NPQH

The Headteacher Programme is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Headship (NPQH) to the Level 7 Senior Leader Standard.

Who is it for?

The Headteacher Programme is for aspiring or recently appointed headteachers looking to develop and apply the knowledge that underpins expert school leadership.

Benefits

- **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQH curriculum
- **Gain 120 Master's credits,** with the option to fast-track to a full MA in Educational Leadership
- **Learn** to confidently lead the strategic direction of your school
- **Gain** a Level 7 Apprenticeship and the NPQH award
- **Join** monthly 1:1 coaching sessions, receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- **Attend** 5 Face-to-Face events and collaborate with other headteachers and aspiring headteachers
- **Apply** learning and have an impact in your setting immediately

Qualification elements

INDUCTION STAGE

- Enrolment and induction
- First day of learning webinars

DEVELOPMENT STAGE

- Monthly tripartite coaching-focused progress reviews
- Portfolio building (incl. formative assessment tasks)
- Education and cross-sector online study
- Enrichment activities
- Strategic business proposal writing

ASSESSMENT STAGE

- Gateway/impact review
- SAT: NPQ case study written response
- EPA 1: Strategic business proposal presentation
- EPA 2: Portfolio of evidence and professional discussion

Entry requirements

Applicants must have

- Experience as a current headteacher, deputy headteacher, vice principal or equivalent role and about 18 months away from applying for headship (if not already in post)

AT A GLANCE

Face-to-Face events
5

This Course Awards
120 Master's Credits, NPQH and Level 7 Senior Leader Standard

Course Duration
18 months

Course start
1 intake a year starting in autumn

COST

~~£14,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship Levy funding

Scan here to learn more and apply.

Learn more and apply at **bestpracticenet.co.uk/headteacher-programme-with-npqh**
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email **npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk**

"My coach was brilliant. She was understanding and kept me on track despite the challenges. She provided guidance and helped me make the right decisions at critical moments."

Executive Leader Programme

Level 7 Apprenticeship with NPQEL

The Executive Leader Programme is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Executive Leadership (NPQEL) to the Level 7 Senior Leader Standard.

Who is it for?

The Executive Leader Programme is for aspiring or recently appointed executive leaders wishing to lead change and improvement across a group of schools.

Benefits

- **Join** monthly 1:1 coaching sessions and receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- **Gain 120 Master's credits,** with the option to fast-track to a full MA in Educational Leadership
- **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQEL
- **Learn** to effectively lead the strategic direction of multiple schools
- **Set** and deliver an ambitious vision across a group of schools
- **Gain** a Level 7 Apprenticeship and the NPQEL award
- **Attend** 6 Face-to-Face events and grow your network of headteachers and executive leaders

Qualification elements

INDUCTION STAGE

- Enrolment and induction
- First day of learning webinars

DEVELOPMENT STAGE

- Monthly tripartite coaching-focused progress reviews
- Portfolio building (incl. formative assessment tasks)
- Education and cross-sector online study
- Enrichment activities
- Strategic business proposal writing

ASSESSMENT STAGE

- Gateway/impact review
- SAT: NPQ case study written response
- EPA 1: Strategic business proposal presentation
- EPA 2: Portfolio of evidence and professional discussion

Entry requirements

Applicants must have

- Experience as a current serving headteacher (or equivalent role) with a minimum of 3 years experience

AT A GLANCE

Face-to-Face events
6

This Course Awards
100 Master's Credits, NPQEL and Level 7 Senior Leader Standard

Course Duration
18 months

Course start
1 intake a year starting in autumn

COST

~~£14,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship Levy funding

Scan here to learn more and apply.

Learn more and apply at **bestpracticenet.co.uk/executive-leader-programme-with-npqel**
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email **npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk**

Best Practice Network

Apply for a Leader Apprenticeship with NPQ

You can apply for any of our Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs directly through our website, but we suggest you take the following steps before applying:

STEP 1

Speak to your headteacher or line manager about getting support to complete a Leader Apprenticeship with NPQ

STEP 2

Visit **bestpracticenet.co.uk/npq-leader**

We have in-depth programme guides, case studies and webinar recordings which will give you a good understanding of the requirements of each programme

STEP 3

Talk to us! We can be contacted through the **live chat** on our website or by **phone** or **email** and we will be delighted to answer any questions you might have.

STEP 4

Apply directly through our website. Our Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs team is on-hand and **ready to assist**.

Contact us

0117 920 9428
npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk
bestpracticenet.co.uk/npq-leader

The Golden Thread Teaching School Hub

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