



ASPIRING MIDDLE LEADERS (AML)

LION LEADERSHIP COURSE 2026-27

Please note course completion is dependent on attending a minimum number of sessions. We will be in touch if we are concerned about your attendance.

MODULE 1 - AUTUMN TERM

SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete the 'leadership self-audit' form. Fill this out honestly and we will review this again later in the programme.
FACE TO FACE PROJECT SESSION	INTRODUCTION TO YOUR PROJECT An introduction to planning a project linked to the aspiring middle leaders programme. During the course you will lead a project that will explore a topic important to you and your local school context; measuring the intent and impact that this has on your chosen audience.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	WHAT IS LEADERSHIP? - VALUES AND VISION This session will explore different types of leadership styles and the impact they can have on individuals and teams. There will be a chance to discuss and consider your own style or the style you would like to develop when you take on more leadership and/or line management.
SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify an in-school coach. They should be a line manager or someone with leadership experience, but don't have to be a member of your Senior Leadership Team (SLT).Produce an initial action plan for your project. Your in-school coach can support you in producing an action plan for your project. Use the 'action plan template' to assist in tracking your aims and progress.



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MODULE 2 - SPRING TERM

SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Finalise your action plan. Make sure you've set clear targets for this term. Review these with your in-school coach.
<u>ONLINE</u> PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	WORKING WITH OTHERS Start with the why? Practical ideas for creating a vision as a leader and tips for difficult conversations and other operational situations.
<u>FACE TO FACE</u> PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	PROBLEM SOLVING A day in the life of a middle leader. This session will explore time and project management, the priorities of a middle leader and how to deal with unexpected issues or complaints; including those difficult conversations that you may experience in your career.
<u>ONLINE</u> PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	WORKING WITH PASTORAL & CLASSROOM DATA This session will explore understanding and acting on data that you will come across in a middle leader role, including Pupil outcomes and tracking, all on a departmental level.
SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue working on your project. Use this time as an opportunity to review your action plan and assess if you're meeting your set deadlines.



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MODULE 3 – SUMMER TERM

SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue working on your project. Use this time as an opportunity to review your action plan and assess if you're meeting your set deadlines.
TBC PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENTS <p>The session will explore the key principles of effective curriculum design, including alignment with learning goals and student needs, sequencing of content and assessment strategies. By the end of the session, participants will have a better understanding of the principles and practices of effective curriculum design and be equipped to these apply techniques in their own teaching contexts.</p>
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	PASTORAL WORK <p>The session will cover the importance of pastoral care in promoting student wellbeing and academic success and provide practical strategies for building positive relationships with students, supporting them through challenging times, and fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect. By the end of the session, participants will be equipped with practical tools and techniques to support their future leadership roles.</p>
SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete the leadership self-audit form. We will review this alongside the audit you completed at the start of the course.• Share your project with your schools. This could include your in-school coach and headteacher. Prepare a shorter 5-minute overview of your project which you'll present at the 'Reviewing and Reflecting' session below.
FACE TO FACE PROJECT SESSION	REVIEWING & REFLECTING <p>Presenting a summary of your project with your course colleagues, where you will reflect on its content and outcome (or ongoing development in some cases). This is an opportunity to explore different viewpoints and network before the end of the course.</p>