



SENIOR LEADERS (SL)

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 your '360 Review' self-evaluation. Fill this out honestly and we will compile a report, personalised to you, later in the programme. You will be asked for 5 colleagues contact details who will provide you with feedback.
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	LEADING WHOLE SCHOOL CHANGE – LESSONS FROM HEADSHIP This session will explore driving change in schools, where you will gain the knowledge, skills, and strategies to develop a compelling vision and effectively lead and manage change initiatives to create a positive and impactful transformation in your educational institution.
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.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	LEADERSHIP STYLES & LEADING THROUGH OTHERS Delve into the art of leading through others, where you will gain valuable insights into different leadership approaches and learn how to effectively lead and inspire your team to achieve collective success.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS & CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS This session will explore the wide range of stakeholders that you will need to communicate with effectively as a Senior Leader both within school and in the community. As a member of SLT the quality of conversations you have is extremely crucial to achieving positive outcomes. Therefore, we will also look at some practical advice to ensure you get the best out of more challenging conversations.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	STRATEGIC USE OF WHOLE SCHOOL DATA You will engage with a seasoned headteacher who will share invaluable insights and key lessons, providing aspiring senior leaders with essential skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the challenges of leadership, cultivate a positive school culture, and drive success in their future roles.
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.Opportunity to discuss your '360 Review' peer report. We will be in touch with you to arrange this.



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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.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY This session explores the role of governors in holding senior leaders to account, and, how leaders may discharge this requirement effectively. Examples of good practice will be shared, and will be relevant for both Senior Leaders and Associate Leaders.
ONLINE PEER LEARNING GROUP SESSION	MAKING THE MOVE TO & WITHIN SENIOR LEADERSHIP Elevate your career and confidently navigate the transition to senior leadership roles within schools. You will gain essential skills, strategies, and insights to successfully make the leap and excel in a new role as a senior leader.
SELF STUDY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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 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.