

# Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs

Nationwide delivery

Flexibly delivered around you

Funded by the Apprenticeship Levy



## Programmes available:

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

Accredited NPQ provider

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



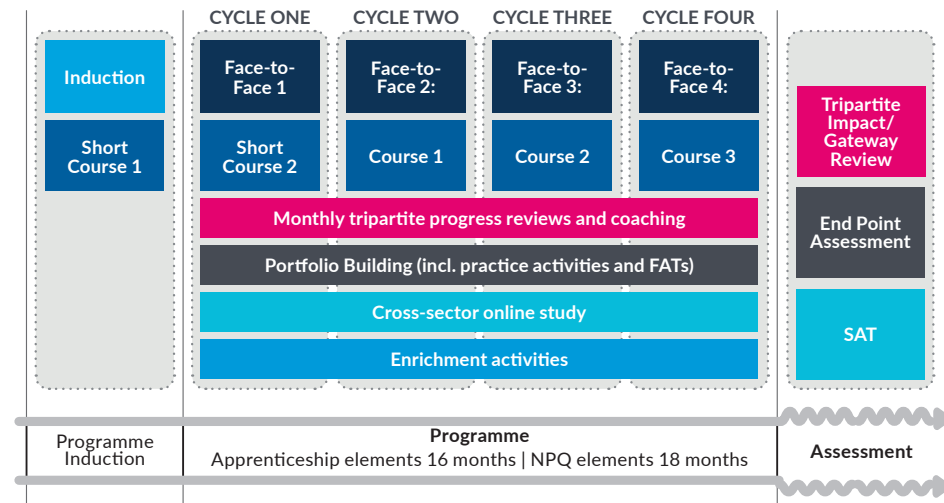
Laura Saunders,  
Lead Facilitator

# 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.

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



## Fully funded

These programmes are fully funded through the Apprenticeship Levy, offering all participants the chance to complete a funded leadership NPQ while simultaneously completing an 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.

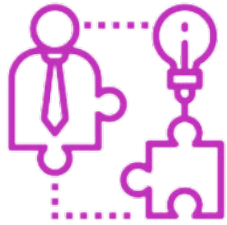
### Examples of OTJ training include:

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

## Course intake

There is only one intake for 2025, beginning in spring. Please see our website to apply.

# What are the benefits?



## 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.



## 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.



## Monthly 1:1 coaching

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



## Access to extra content

Candidates have access to extra high-quality content to help candidates throughout their studies.

# Face-to-Face Events

The Face-to-Face events are a popular and crucial part of the learner's engagement.

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 and be able to bounce ideas off each other during group sessions and collaborative practical tasks.



# 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**



“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.

### Learning hours

47 hours synchronous activity | 6 hours per asynchronous activity  
(based on 30+ working hours/week)

### 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 spring

## 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](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/school-leader-programme-with-npqsl)  
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email [npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk](mailto: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.

### Learning hours

53 hours synchronous activity | 6 hours per asynchronous activity  
(based on 30+ working hours/week)

### Benefits

- ✔ **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQH curriculum
- ✔ **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
- ✔ **Gain** additional post-nominals, certificates and credentials
- ✔ **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**  
100 Master's Credits, NPQH and Level 7 Senior Leader Standard



**Course Duration**  
18 months



**Course start**  
1 intake a year starting in spring

## 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](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/headteacher-programme-with-npqh)  
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email [npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk](mailto: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.

### Learning hours

59 hours synchronous activity | 6 hours per asynchronous activity  
(based on 30+ working hours/week)

### Benefits

- ✔ **Join** monthly 1:1 coaching sessions and receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- ✔ **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
- ✔ **Gain** additional post-nominals, certificates and credentials
- ✔ **Apply** learning and have an impact 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 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 spring

## 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](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/executive-leader-programme-with-npqel)  
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email [npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk](mailto: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](https://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](mailto:npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk)

[bestpracticenet.co.uk/npq-leader](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/npq-leader)



WORLD  
LAND  
TRUST™

[www.carbonbalancedprinter.com](http://www.carbonbalancedprinter.com)  
Registration No. CBP2228