

# Senior Leaders Programme with NPQSL – Level 5

## Qualification Specification



Includes Two  
Qualifications:  
NPQSL +  
Level 5 ODM  
Standard

# Senior Leaders Programme with NPQSL

The Senior Leaders Programme with NPQSL is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Senior Leadership (NPQSL) to the Level 5 Operations/Departmental Manager Standard. By mapping the two qualifications, we have created a successful programme which allows participants to complete two qualifications concurrently.

## One Programme, Two Certificates

### Level 5 Operations/Departmental Manager Standard

Level 5 Operations/Departmental Manager Standard is designed for individuals moving into, or already in, a management role. Outside of education, this standard is normally completed by Operations Managers, Regional Managers, Divisional Managers, Department Managers and a variety of specialist managers. Within education, the standard is commonly completed by Assistant Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers.

Level 5 Operations/Departmental Manager Standard provides broad, cross-sector, leadership training and aligns well with the NPQSL which provides more school-specific leadership training.

#### Element Spotlight: Apprenticeship Tutor

Apprenticeship tutors are themselves experienced former executive leaders or headteachers and the close relationship they form with participants forms the cornerstone of the Senior Leaders Apprenticeship with NPQSL.

Participants work with their tutor to develop an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and set out broader personal and professional development goals. Monthly progress review meetings ensure participants are progressing against their personal objectives and the requirements of the programme.

### National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership (NPQSL)

NPQSL gives candidates all of the essential knowledge, skills and concepts that underpin successful senior leadership. The qualification draws from the very latest evidence and research whilst also benefiting from a streamlined final assessment.

Best Practice Network is a leading provider of NPQs and our programmes are characterised by the thoroughness of the content, the support guaranteed to participants and the enthusiasm of our national delivery network.

#### Element Spotlight: NPQSL Face-to-Face content outline

The NPQSL programme includes four face-to-face events spread across the 18-month duration of the qualification.

Each event precedes online course study and will introduce the climate and context for online study. The four event days consist of tailored practice tasks, group networking and self-managed learning interaction supporting powerful dialogue and leadership development.

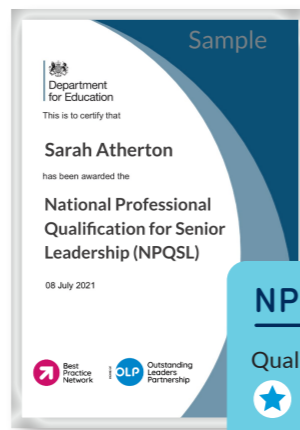


#### Level 5 Operations/ Departmental Manager Standard

Qualification level: Level 5

Professional registration links:  
Member of CMI (MCMI)  
Foundation Chartered Manager (fCMgr)

Post nominals: CHA (Certificate of Higher Apprenticeship)



#### NPQSL

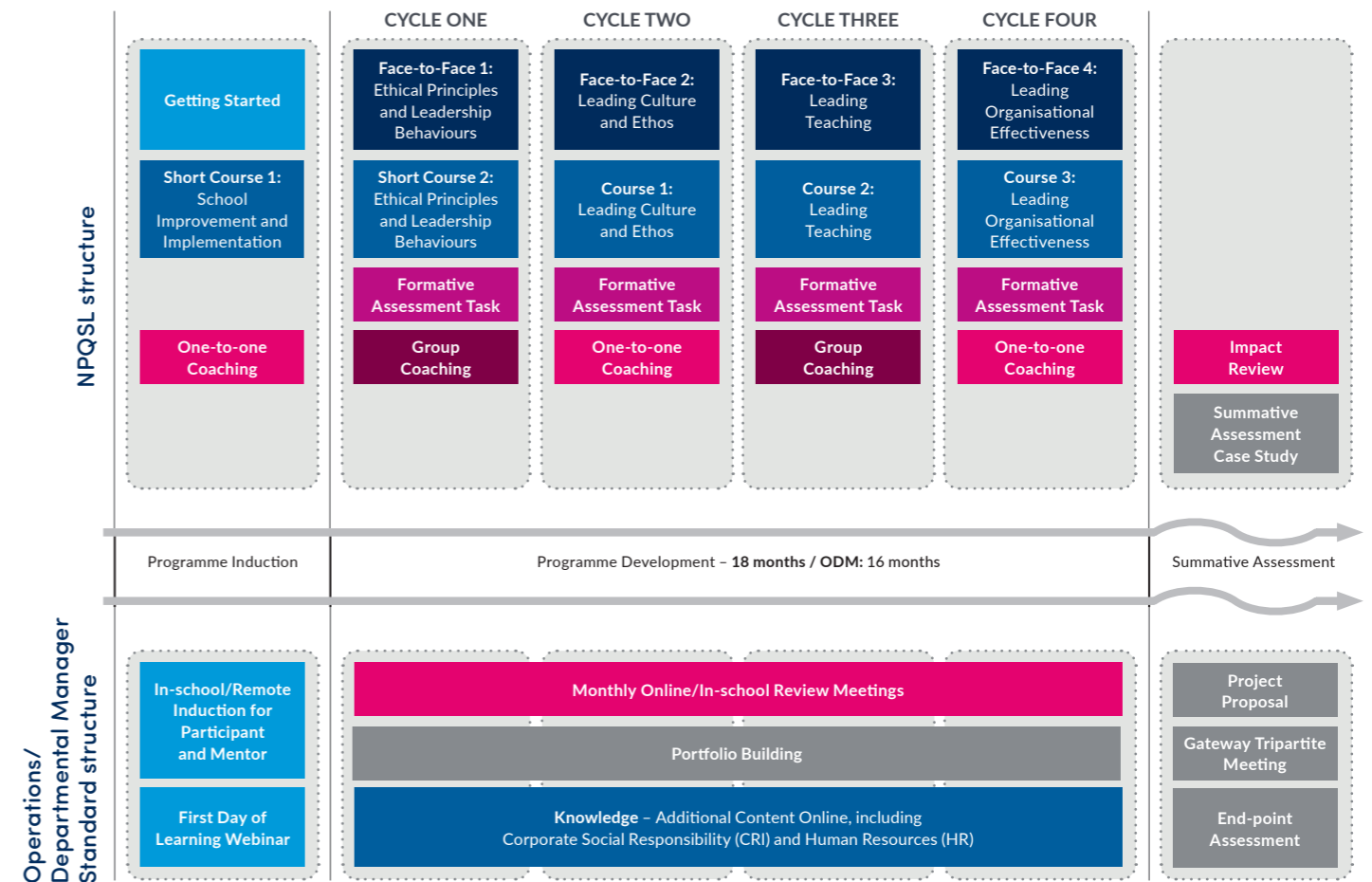
Qualification level: Level 5

★ Worth 60 Master's credits

Professional registration links:  
National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership (NPQSL)

# Two Certificates, One Programme

## Combined programme structure



## Qualification elements

### ODM elements

INDUCTION STAGE	
Induction	2 hours
First Day of Learning Webinars	2 hours
DEVELOPMENT STAGE	
Monthly Progress Review Meetings	18 hours
Apprenticeship Topics	12 hours
Additional 1:1 Support (Optional)	10 hours
Franklin Covey Webinars (Optional)	7 hours
Portfolio Building	8 hours
ASSESSMENT STAGE	
Project Proposal	6 hours
<b>Total Essential Learning Hours</b>	<b>42</b>

### NPQSL elements

INDUCTION STAGE	
Induction (incl. Initial needs analysis: 1 hour)	2 hours
DEVELOPMENT STAGE	
Face-to-face events	24 hours
Online course study	38 hours
Formative assessment tasks	20 hours
Leadership performance coaching	6 hours
SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT STAGE	
Case study scenario	Max. 1500 words
<b>Total Guided Learning Hours</b>	<b>90</b>

## Off-the-job training

Off-the-job (OTJ) Training is an important part of all apprenticeship programmes, it is defined as learning which is undertaken outside of the normal day-to-day working environment within contracted hours, leading towards the achievement of an apprenticeship.

Apprenticeship Tutors will help the apprentice recognise what activities they can use to evidence the OTJ Training.

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 intakes

There are two intakes per year, one beginning in autumn and one in spring. Please see our website for application deadlines and delivery schedules.

## Delivery locations

Delivery venues are largely provided through our national network of teaching school and multi-academy trust partners. Participants applying from one of our partner groups 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 for the majority of participants.

Apprenticeship Tutors will periodically travel to participants' schools for the monthly Performance Reviews.

\* Subject to group viability



## Entry requirements

Applicants must be in a middle leader role as a minimum and have completed 2 full years of teaching.

## Funding

### The Apprenticeship Levy

The Senior Leaders Programme with NPQSL costs £7,000 and qualifies for the Apprenticeship Levy. Employers with a salary bill over £3m per annum are required to pay 0.5% of their salary bill into the levy. These funds are ring-fenced for apprenticeship programmes and after two years unused funds are lost.

If your organisation does not pay into the levy, then it always co-invests with the government. The maximum amount your organisation will pay for apprenticeship training is 5% of the total cost.

### Accessing levy funding

Best Practice Network can support your school to access funding for the Senior Leaders Programme with NPQSL.

If you are from a 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.

## How to apply

Please apply through our website at

[bestpracticenet.co.uk/school-leader-programme-with-npqs](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/school-leader-programme-with-npqs)

It should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete and our Leaders Programme advisors are on-hand via our website's livechat to answer your questions and support your application.

## What's next?

Professionally, graduates may choose to apply for senior leadership or system leadership roles such as deputy head, specialist leader of education (SLE) or teaching school director.

Participants may choose to continue their professional development through the completion of a master's degree in educational leadership using the 60 master's credits earned through completion of the qualification.

Alternatively, if they deem themselves to be within three years of applying for headship roles, participants might go on to complete the Headteacher Programme with NPQH.

## Contact us

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Accredited NPQ provider



Department  
for Education