



# National Professional Qualification in Executive Leadership (NPQEL)

## Remote Worldwide Delivery for International Schools



### NPQEL AT A GLANCE

- Course Duration: **18 months**
- Online Events: **6 events**
- Online Learning: **38 hours**
- Coaching: **10 hours**
- Total Learning Hours: **124 hours**
- Final Assessment: **Case study scenario**
- ★ Awards **60 Master's Credits**



Accredited NPQ provider



# About NPQEL

The DfE-accredited NPQEL is for school leaders who are, or are aspiring to be, an executive headteacher or have a school trust CEO role with responsibility for leading several schools. This flexible part-time training fits around a busy school leader's timetable and is delivered through a combination of face-to-face events, online study, webinars and coaching. Completing NPQEL is hugely beneficial for participants as well as their school and pupils. We are proud to have delivered NPQs to thousands of International School participants across the globe. Find out about our Remote Online Delivery option on the last page.

## Benefits for participants

- ✔ Portable qualification – valid and highly sought-after by UK schools and International Schools
- ✔ Increased awareness and understanding of self and of the behaviours needed to lead across multiple organisations
- ✔ Access to high-quality feedback and ongoing interaction with qualified performance coaches
- ✔ Increased capability and capacity to take on a multi-school organisation – having the skills, knowledge and understanding to do the job more effectively

## Benefits for schools

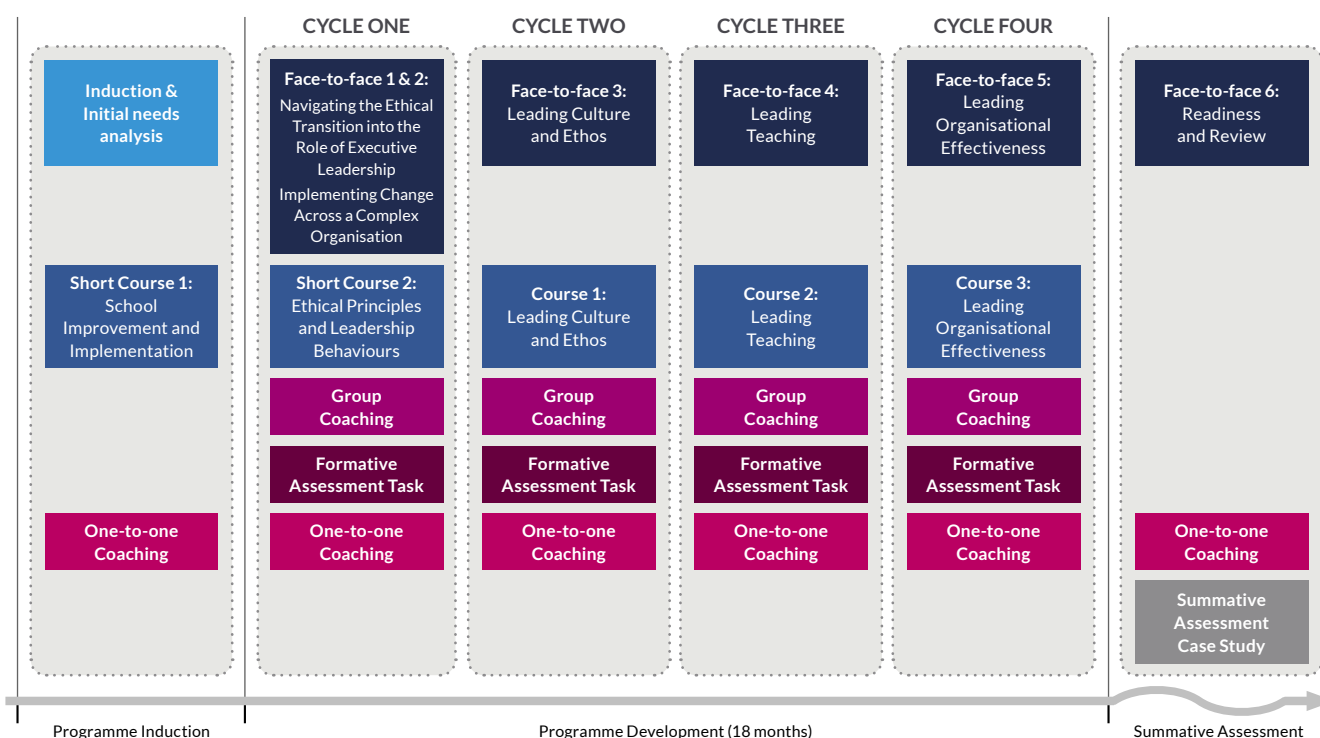
- ✔ Offering staff the chance to complete NPQs has been shown to improve teacher retention rates and is a great incentive for recruiting new teachers
- ✔ Increased national networking and partnership opportunities
- ✔ Insight into the systems, sectors and sources of effective leadership practice
- ✔ A professionally aware and informed leader who can make evidence-based strategic decisions and approach new challenges in an effective and efficient manner

## Qualification elements

<b>INDUCTION STAGE</b>	<b>Induction (incl. Initial needs analysis: 1 hour)</b>	<b>6 hours</b>	Total Guided Learning Hours: <b>124</b>
<b>DEVELOPMENT STAGE</b>	<b>Face-to-face events</b>	<b>36 hours</b>	
	<b>Online course study</b>	<b>38 hours</b>	
	<b>Formative assessment tasks</b>	<b>34 hours</b>	
	<b>Leadership performance coaching</b>	<b>10 hours</b>	
<b>SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT STAGE</b>	<b>Case study scenario</b>	<b>Max. 1500 words</b>	

## Qualification programme structure

The NPQEL content is delivered across four development stage cycles that include face-to-face events, online study, a formative assessment task and leadership performance coaching. The context focus for each cycle aligns to each of the content areas identified by the DfE and their sequencing across the delivery cycle has been carefully crafted to ensure depth of study and time for most effective reflection and review by each participant.





## Induction

The induction stage includes insight into and preparation for qualification engagement and the *School improvement and implementation* short course. Participants will complete their initial needs analysis as part of this stage.

### Induction and Initial needs analysis

Self assessment of skills, knowledge and understanding of 'learn that' and 'learn how to' statements derived from the DfE qualification frameworks and leadership behaviours. The outcomes of the analysis inform ongoing discussion and feedback throughout the programme.



## Face-to-face content outline

The NPQEL programme includes six face-to-face events spread across the 18-month duration of the qualification. Face-to-face events are delivered remotely for participants from International Schools.

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

### Face-to-face events (Delivered remotely)

- **Day 1:** Navigating the Ethical Transition into the Role of Executive Leadership
- **Day 2:** Implementing Change Across a Complex Organisation
- **Day 3:** Leading Culture and Ethos
- **Day 4:** Leading Teaching
- **Day 5:** Leading Organisational Effectiveness
- **Day 6:** Readiness and Review



## Online course content outline

NPQEL participants will undertake two short courses and three full courses.

As part of online course engagement compliance, participants will be required to select and complete three practice activities and undertake one formative assessment task.

Each full course includes three study modules that are to be completed within a recommended time frame of 10 hours. Each short course is composed of 4 hours of study.

### Short courses

1. **School Improvement and Implementation**
2. **Ethical Principles and Leadership Behaviours**

## Full courses

1. **Leading Culture and Ethos**
  - Module 1: School culture
  - Module 2: Behaviour
  - Module 3: Professional development
2. **Leading Teaching**
  - Module 1: Teaching
  - Module 2: Curriculum and assessment
  - Module 3: Additional and SEN/disabilities
3. **Leading Organisational Effectiveness**
  - Module 1: Organisational management
  - Module 2: Working in partnership
  - Module 3: Governance and accountability



## Formative assessment tasks

The formative assessment tasks are in-school practice-led activities that participants choose to complete following an online course. There are four formative assessment tasks for NPQEL. These tasks can be undertaken in participants' own or other school.



## Leadership performance coaching

NPQEL participants will engage with ten hours of coaching.

### Group coaching

- Four hours (one hour following each online course)

### One-to-one coaching

- Six hours (one hour during the induction stage and then one hour following the completion of each formative assessment task, plus an impact review prior to the summative assessment stage)



## Assessment

Qualification elements that count towards final assessment

To pass an NPQ, the following criteria need to be met:

- Participants must engage in 90% of the course elements determined by the provider.
- Participants must submit and pass one summative assessment that takes the form of a case study. Participants have an eight-day window to provide a written response of a maximum 1500 words and submit this by midnight on the designated eighth day.

What are the course elements I must engage with?

1. Leadership Development Record (LDR) review
2. Face-to-face events
3. Online practice activities
4. Formative assessment tasks
5. Coaching

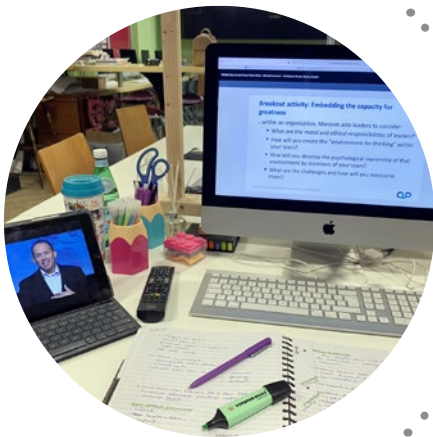
## Course intakes

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

## Remotely delivered CPD

Before Covid, we were able to offer both Face-to-Face and Remote Online Delivery models, however since the introduction of travel restrictions, the majority of our International School NPQ participants now complete the qualifications through the Remote Online Delivery model. We hope to resume working with our International School partners to offer a choice of NPQ delivery models in the near future. Please contact us to find out more.

NPQs are remotely delivered meaning they can be completed anywhere in the world! We have remotely delivered NPQs to International Schools colleagues in places as remote as the Falkland Islands and the Seychelles so location is not an issue.



We use facilitated online webinars and the Virtual Learning Environment Canvas to ensure that participants completing NPQs remotely get access to the same great content and support as the thousands of NPQ participants who complete these qualifications through Face-to-Face learning in the UK.

The NPQ certificates received by UK participants and International participants are identical and are in high demand by both UK schools and International Schools.

## Contact us

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outstandingleaders.org/international



## Entry requirements

NPQEL applicants must be a serving headteacher (or equivalent role) with a minimum of 3 years' experience.

In order to be accepted onto the qualification, participants will need to identify and nominate a sponsor. This should be someone with a detailed and professional knowledge of the participant's work, impact, professional characteristics and leadership behaviours.

## How to apply

Completing an NPQ is a huge achievement that requires a significant investment in time and effort. As such we advise all participants to follow these steps when applying:

- Discuss the NPQ with your headteacher or CPD lead. What are your goals? How will the NPQ benefit your school and pupils?
- Contact us with any questions about the qualification or the availability of funding.
- Start your application as early as possible to avoid the last minute NPQ rush!

The new and simplified NPQ application form can be found at [outstandingleaders.org/npqel-international](https://outstandingleaders.org/npqel-international)

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

We look forward to working with you 😊

## What's next?

Participants that achieve the NPQEL may choose to continue their professional development through the completion of a master's degree in business administration (MBA) using the 60 master's credits earned through completion of the qualification.

Professionally, NPQEL graduates may choose to apply for executive leadership roles such as CEO or COO of a MAT, executive headteacher posts or similar.



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Department  
for Education

