

## **S7 Leadership Programme**

The S7 Consortium is delighted to announce the fourteenth year of its unique programme for the Sixth Form College leaders of the future.

This document sets out the provisional detail of the programme which will start in the Spring Term and run until the end of the Summer Term 2019. It is aimed at curriculum and pastoral team leaders within Sixth Form Colleges who currently have some sort of responsibility for a team member or members.

The five day course has been carefully planned and considered by a team of S7 senior managers to focus as tightly as possible on the changing needs and expertise demanded of managers in the middle of Sixth Form College organisations. It is holders of these key posts who often face some of the greatest pressures in juggling the demands of the classroom with delivering wider organisational goals and targets.

The S7 Leadership Programme will take place away from the pressures and pace of the College environment at a training venue near Woking. With a mix of delegates from across the South East Sixth Form Colleges all together in one place, it is hoped that there will be plenty of opportunities to make informal connections and networks to discuss and solve issues facing individuals in Colleges.

To this end, the programme will start with a two day residential to allow delegates the chance to get to know each other and the trainers, together with the team of mentors who will be working on the programme. Each delegate will have a mentor from amongst the senior management teams of the S7 Colleges, who will meet with them formally four times during the course and who will be on hand to offer phone and email advice during the progress of the central project. Each delegate will be asked to deliver a short presentation on the outcomes of this project at the end of the course in June 2019.

Commitment levels to this course will be necessarily high. There will be preparation materials in advance of modules and on-line materials to access for homework as part of the course delivery. All dates for the course will be compulsory – the programme has been designed in such a way that each module will build on its predecessor. In addition, each delegate will have their own mini - project to undertake under the guidance of their mentor.

We hope that this will be something of a unique opportunity: to attend a course that has been designed by skilled and experienced practitioners within the Sixth Form College sector to attend to the needs of managers within it.

Individual Colleges will have responsibility for arriving at the final names and numbers of delegates that they put forward for this course and for meeting the financial costs for each delegate.

## **S7 Leadership Programme Course Outline 2019**

### **Day One (7<sup>th</sup> February 2019): Leading and Managing**

This initial module will set much of the groundwork for the course as a whole: it will ask you to reflect on where you are currently as an individual and as a leader and will ask you to begin to engage with ideas on Leadership. You will have the opportunity to discuss and understand the process for developing a vision and also to engage with real-life strategies for managing the day to day roles of leadership. This will include the management of your time and also of meetings, where we will explore strategies for keeping meetings on track and ensuring positive outcomes. At the end of this first day you will meet your programme mentor for the first time and have an opportunity to discuss your current situation and development goals.

### **Day One: Evening**

A social dinner and chance to relax with the S7 Director, leaders of the course and the programme mentors who will be guiding you through your project work as well as an opportunity to get to know the other programme delegates and leaders better.

### **Day Two (8<sup>th</sup> February 2019): Teams and Team Leading**

The morning begins with an activity, which also allows you workshop time with your programme mentor to establish some ideas for your project, as well as getting you thinking independently. The morning session will also focus on the work and dynamics of teams and how to get the most from them.

The afternoon will involve some preparatory work for Day Three of the programme.

### **Day Three (26<sup>th</sup> March 2019): Managing Yourself and Others**

The emphasis for the morning of this third day will be on the successful management of self. Through completing an analysis of your personal leadership style, we will explore the impact that individuals can have on the performance of others. Theory work on the importance of emotional intelligence and assertiveness to establishing an effective leadership style will feed in to the tasks undertaken. The afternoon will focus on your influence on others and will consider strategies for the management of difficult people and situations as well as exploring the opportunities and tensions between the curriculum and pastoral sides of the college.

### **Day Four (1<sup>st</sup> May 2019)**

The morning will be spent exploring the new Common Inspection Framework and finishing with a session on excellence in teaching and learning. During the early afternoon you will be able to practise your presentation skills as if presenting to your Governing Body and you will also have another opportunity to work with your mentor, analysing and discussing your project progress to this point.

### **Between days Four and Five:**

You will have your final meeting with your mentor in your own college.

### **Day Five (10<sup>th</sup> June 2019): The Bigger Picture**

This final day will see a session on improving quality by the use of data in your department and it also provides a wider perspective by allowing time for reflection on what we mean by the educational values of a Sixth Form College and how you might re-shape those in a leadership role. You will then have the opportunity to ask any questions you wish of a panel of our Sixth Form College Principals. For the afternoon session of this final day you will be joined by senior staff from the S7 Colleges in time for the showcase of project material that will take place. Presentations from each of the course delegates will form the basis of this session. Certificates will be awarded at the end of the day.