

# Leader Apprenticeships with NPQs



## Fully funded programmes:

- Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLT
- Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLBC
- Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLTD
- Leader Apprenticeship with NPQSL
- Leader Apprenticeship with NPQH

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

Laura Saunders,  
Lead Facilitator



Accredited NPQ provider

# 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 3 or Level 5 apprenticeship standard, with full funding available from the Apprenticeship Levy.

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# Funded by the Apprenticeship Levy



## Fully funded

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

# What are the benefits?



## Monthly coaching

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



## Apprenticeship Levy funded

These programmes make use of the Apprenticeship Levy, giving participants the opportunity to gain a funded NPQ and a Level 3 or Level 5 apprenticeship.



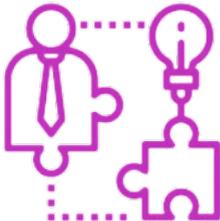
## Cross-sector experience

Candidates access cutting-edge theory, resources and delivery from thought leaders and leading practitioners from all sectors of the economy.



## 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.



## A wider view of leadership

Candidates apply cross-sector management and leadership practice to their school context providing a broader perspective on organisational improvement.



## Access to extra content

Candidates have access to extra high-quality content to help them 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 the **Level 3 Team Leader Apprenticeship** or the **Level 5 Operations Manager Standard**



## NPQ

Gain the **NPQ for Leading Teaching**, **NPQ for Leading Teacher Development**, **NPQ for Leading Behaviour and Culture** or **NPQ for Senior Leadership** or **NPQ for Headship**

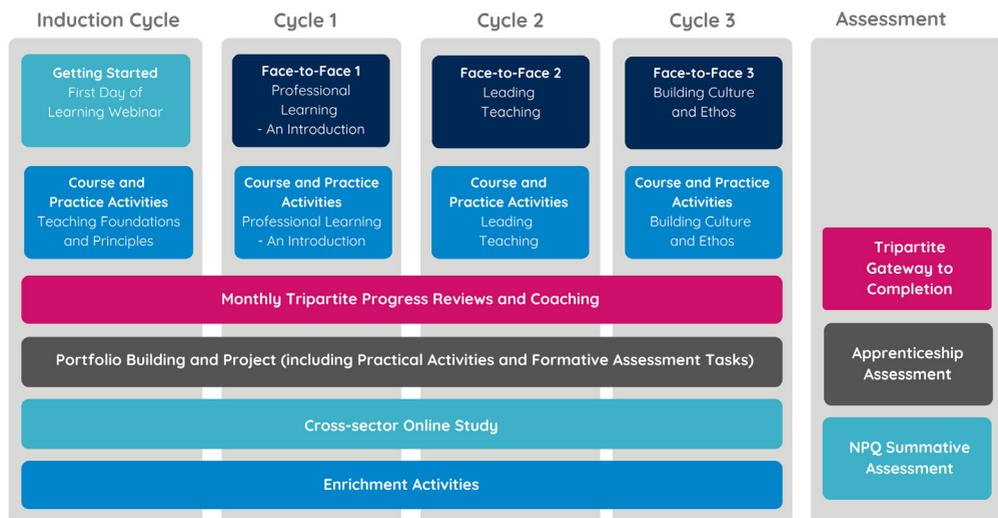


# Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLT

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLT is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Leading Teaching (NPQLT) to the Level 3 Team Leader Apprenticeship.

## Who is it for?

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLT is designed for individuals who currently hold, or are harbouring aspirations to assume, leadership roles in teaching, whether it be in a particular subject, year group, key stage or educational phase.



←----- 12 months ----->  
(Apprenticeship Elements: 9 Months)

# New for 2026



## Benefits

- ✔ **Join** monthly coaching sessions and receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- ✔ **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQLT
- ✔ **Learn** to effectively lead across a year group, key stage or subject
- ✔ **Develop** expertise across a number of specialist areas related to the role
- ✔ **Attend** 3 Face-to-Face events where you will learn from experienced facilitators and network with other teachers

## 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

3



### This Course Awards

40 Master's Credits, NPQLT and Level 3 Team Leader



### Course Duration

12 months



### Course start

Check our website for the next intake

## COST

~~£5,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship  
Levy funding

Scan here to  
learn more  
and apply.



Learn more and apply at [bestpracticenet.co.uk/npqlt-apprenticeship](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/npqlt-apprenticeship)  
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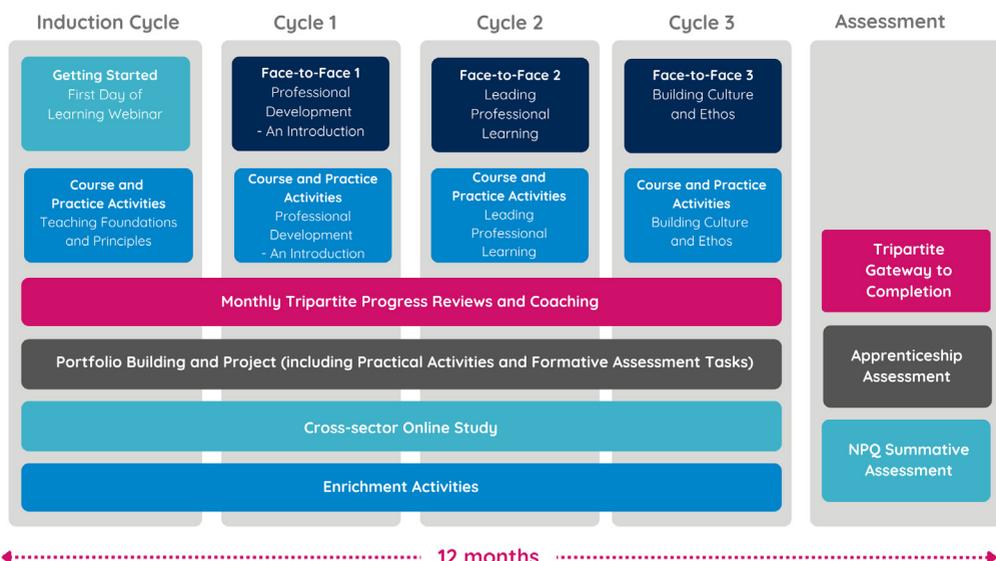
# Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLTD

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLTD is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD) to the Level 3 Team Leader Apprenticeship.

## Who is it for?

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLTD is suitable for teachers who have, or are aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading the development of other teachers in their school.

## Programme Structure



# New for 2026

## Benefits

- ✓ **Join** monthly coaching sessions and receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
- ✓ **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQLTD
- ✓ **Lead** the development of teachers at your school
- ✓ **Oversee** staff development and improve outcomes for all
- ✓ **Develop** expertise across a number of specialist areas related to the role
- ✓ **Attend** 3 Face-to-Face events where you will learn from experienced facilitators and network with other teachers

## 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**

3



**This Course Awards**

40 Master's Credits, NPQLTD and Level 3 Team Leader



**Course Duration**

12 months



**Course start**

Check our website for the next intake

## COST

~~£5,000~~

**£0 with Apprenticeship**

**Levy funding**

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For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email [npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk](mailto:npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk)



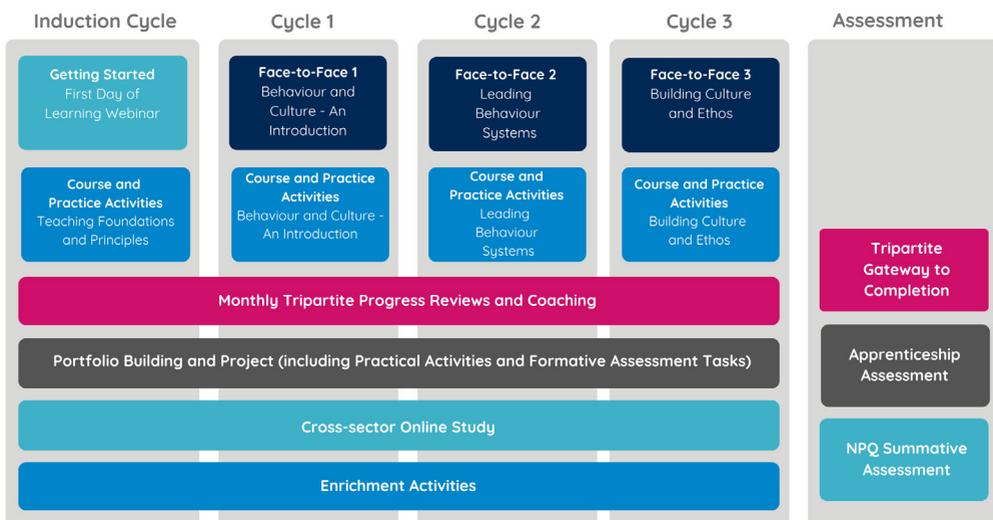
# Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLBC

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLBC is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC) to the Level 3 Team Leader Apprenticeship.

## Who is it for?

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQLBC is suitable for teachers who have, or are aspiring to have, responsibilities for leading behaviour and/or supporting pupil wellbeing in their school.

## Programme Structure



← ..... 12 months ..... →  
(Apprenticeship Elements: 9 Months)

# New for 2026

## Benefits

- ✓ **Join** monthly coaching sessions and receive advice from experts and tailored feedback on your performance
  - ✓ **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQLBC
  - ✓ **Learn** to effectively support pupil wellbeing and improve behaviour
  - ✓ **Develop** your knowledge of behaviour systems
- Attend 3** Face-to-Face events where you will learn from experienced facilitators and network with other teachers

## 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

3



### This Course Awards

40 Master's Credits, NPQLBC and Level 3 Team Leader



### Course Duration

12 months



### Course start

Check our website for the next intake

## COST

~~£5,000~~

£0 with Apprenticeship

Levy funding

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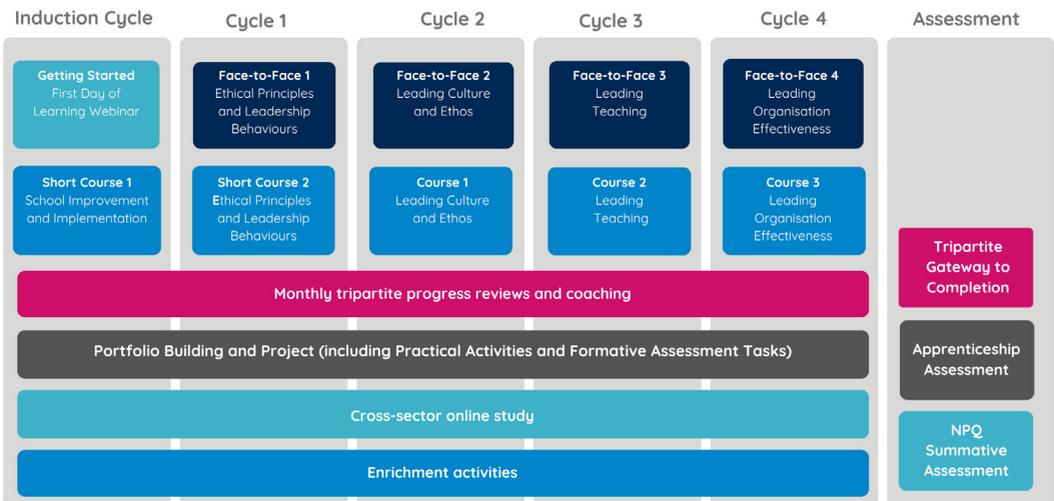
# Leader Apprenticeship with NPQSL

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQSL is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Senior Leadership (NPQSL) to the Level 5 Operations Manager Apprenticeship.

## Who is it for?

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQSL is for teachers and leaders who are, or want to be, senior leaders with cross-school responsibilities.

## Programme Structure



← ..... 18 months ..... →  
 (Apprenticeship Elements: 12-16 Months)

“Lots of information and great discussion with other people aided my learning and helped me review my own leadership.”

## 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 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 teachers and school leaders

## 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



**Course Duration**

18 months



**Course start**

Check our website for the  
next intake

## COST

~~£9,000~~

**£0 with Apprenticeship**

**Levy funding**

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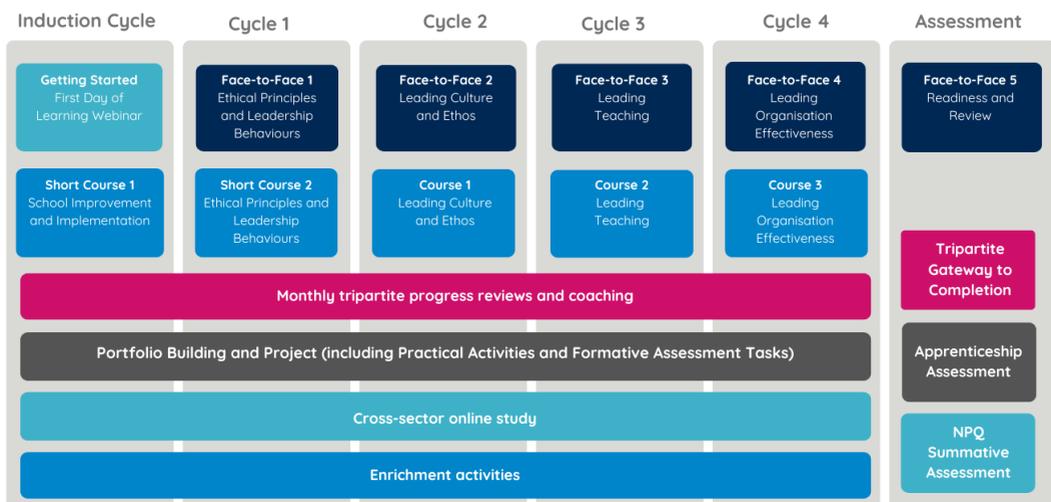
# Leader Apprenticeship with NPQH

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQH is a dual award which has mapped the DfE's NPQ for Headship (NPQH) to the Level 5 Operations Manager Apprenticeship.

## Who is it for?

The Leader Apprenticeship with NPQH is for aspiring or recently appointed headteachers looking to develop and apply the knowledge that underpins expert school leadership.

## Programme Structure



← ..... **18 months** ..... →  
 (Apprenticeship Elements: 12-16 Months)

"I am very grateful to my apprenticeship performance coach and facilitators for their advice, support and listening ear over the time of the course."

## Benefits

- ✓ **Extended** leadership training that goes beyond the standard NPQH curriculum
- ✓ **Learn** to confidently lead the strategic direction of your school
- ✓ **Gain** a Level 5 Apprenticeship and the NPQH award
- ✓ **Join** monthly 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
- ✓ **Apply** learning and have an impact in your setting immediately

## 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)

Learn more and apply at [bestpracticenet.co.uk/npqh-apprenticeship](https://bestpracticenet.co.uk/npqh-apprenticeship)  
For more information call **0117 920 9428** or email [npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk](mailto:npq@bestpracticenet.co.uk)

## AT A GLANCE



### Face-to-Face events

5



### This Course Awards

100 Master's Credits, NPQH and Level 5 Operations Manager



### Course Duration

18 months



### Course start

Check our website for the next intake

## COST

~~£9,000~~

**£0 with Apprenticeship  
Levy funding**

Scan here to  
learn more  
and apply.





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)



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