

A New Direction and UCL Centre for Educational Leadership

Cultural Education Leadership Programme

Introduction

A New Direction and UCL Centre for Educational Leadership are delighted to invite applications from London primary school teachers (including from SEND settings) to be part of a six-month pilot of a new Cultural Education Leadership Programme.

This fully-funded programme is free to schools, and requires a total time commitment of 12 days between January and July 2024, six teaching days and six days of independent learning and project work. A New Direction will make a contribution to staff cover costs of up to £1,500 per school.

The 23/24 iteration of the programme is a pilot and will be evaluated by an external evaluator. All participants will be invited to contribute to the evaluation in order to refine and develop our approach to future delivery should we be successful in securing further funding.

About the Cultural Education Leadership Programme

The Cultural Education Leadership Programme is aimed at primary school arts, humanities, literacy and cultural leads, or teachers with an interest in taking on a leadership role around cultural education in their school. This programme will provide participants with the knowledge and skills to lead the curricula in their subject areas, as well as exploring approaches to creative learning and creative leadership. It builds on AND's former Cultural Leadership Community and Advocates programmes and the Connected London network, and the UCL Centre for Educational Leadership's expertise in designing and delivering educational leadership programmes (including NPQs).

The Cultural Leadership programme is an action and development-orientated project. Participants will be expected to undertake a 'Leadership for Change' project during the programme. This project will focus on a particular cultural education development priority in their own setting, and will provide an opportunity to enact learning from the programme and visits to schools and cultural organisations.

Participants will be inducted into the Centre for Educational Leadership methodology of 'Leadership for Change' projects, and will then be supported to collect the necessary baseline and impact evidence, while having an opportunity at the end of the programme to present their projects and the outcomes of this work. This approach will strengthen capacity in individual schools, as well as across and beyond the network of participating schools.

Participants will also work in Action Learning Sets to provide ongoing reflective spaces. These sessions will provide an opportunity to consider learning, and develop a peer support structure that we hope will facilitate shared learning.

Participants are not expected to be in a senior leadership position in their setting – the programme aims to support participants to act as leaders in cultural education irrespective of their level of seniority in their school. You must have an interest in and commitment to cultural education, creative learning and creative leadership.

Key Dates

The programme includes four teaching days and two visits, all of which are mandatory.

Session type	Date	Location	Session title
Teaching day	Wed 10/1/24 9am - 4.30pm	Central London	The foundations of successful schools, effective cultural education and powerful leadership
School visit	Tues 30/1/24 9am - 4.30pm	TBC	Principles of effective cultural education
Teaching day	Tues 5/3/24 9am - 4.30pm	UCL	Leading change and improvement in cultural education
Organisation visit	Thu 18/4/24 9am - 4.30pm	TBC	Principles of effective cultural education
Teaching day	Thu 9/5/24 9am - 4.30pm	Central London	Leading the cultural education team and enhancing enrichment
Teaching day (sharing & celebration)	Tues 11/6/24 9am - 4.30pm	Central London	Celebrating impact

Teaching days will include:

- Thematic content, with input from education, leadership, creativity, culture and arts specialists
- Opportunities to share learning with peers
- 'Cultural education in practice' sessions
- 'Leadership for change' project content and support

Teaching days will take place at UCL or in cultural venues in central London, with the opportunity to explore these during the day.

Our school and cultural organisation visits will enable participants to explore the principles of effective cultural education in action at two expert settings, with the opportunity to share learning, make connections and ask questions.

Alongside this, participants will be expected to allocate six days to their 'Leadership for Change' project, supported by their school.

The programme is fully funded and, in addition, A New Direction will contribute up to £1,500 per participant towards cover costs.

An additional access budget is available to support BSL interpretation or other access costs relating to the programme where needed.

There will also be an optional social and check-in session in February (date TBC), and participants will be offered opportunities to take part in and experience a range of cultural and creative activities to develop their understanding of London's cultural and creative offer throughout the programme.

In addition, participants will receive:

- A [Teacher Art Pass](#) to support their personal arts enjoyment, learning and development
- A copy of [Catalyst](#) (evidence-informed resources to support and promote collaborative professional learning and development of teacher leaders in and across schools)

- A copy of [Creative Thinking in Schools: A leadership playbook](#) (a practical guide drawing together a deep understanding about school and system change with experience of cultivating creative thinking and promoting creative learning habits in schools)
- Reading lists and other related resources.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible to take part in the Cultural Education Leadership Programme, you must:

- be working as a teacher in a primary school (including primary SEND schools) in a London borough
- have completed your ECT (if you qualified recently) or equivalent experience
- be working at any level up to assistant headteacher
- demonstrate an interest in and commitment to cultural education, creative learning and creative leadership.

How to apply

To apply to be part of the Cultural Education Leadership Programme, please complete and return the application form to Laura Fuller, Senior Programme Manager at A New Direction, laura.fuller@anewdirection.org.uk no later than 5pm on 17 November 2023.

Please note:

- You must be able to attend all of the mandatory sessions for the programme and undertake an additional 6 days of project work – by applying for the programme you are agreeing to this time commitment if your application is successful
- You must answer all the questions on the form
- Your headteacher must write a supporting statement (question 6 on the application)
- You and your headteacher must sign the application (a digital or typed signature is acceptable)

Questions

If you have any questions about the programme or the application process, please contact Laura Fuller, Senior Programme Manager at A New Direction at laura.fuller@anewdirection.org.uk.