

**Leading Further Education
March 21st 2014**

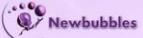
The Learning Leader

With Joanne Miles



Objectives

- Outline the emerging role of the learning leader in the FE sector
- Identify several key areas of focus for the learning leader
- Review and experience several activities for use in team meetings to focus on T&L



Messages from the CIF

To be graded **outstanding** in leadership and management:

Leaders and managers take actions that focus relentlessly on improving teaching, learning and assessment, which are likely to be outstanding and at least consistently good.

Professional development is underpinned by highly rigorous performance management that encourages, challenges and supports staff to improve (p.59)



"Leading learning in further education," the 157 Group and CfBT Education Trust (May 2011)

"The effective leadership of learning appears to involve four areas of practice:

- Investing time and resources to promote the professional development of staff
- Having a close involvement in the management of the teaching programme
- Setting clear directions for the organisation, including the centrality of teaching and learning
- Establishing a culture that respects the professionalism of teachers and empowers them to innovate" (pg. 30)



The emerging role of the learning leader

- Vision for T&L improvement in their area
- Communicator of T&L priorities
- Classroom presence
- Drives improvement with teams and individuals
- Develops people through observation, feedback, coaching, mentoring etc
- Manages performance
- Encourages sharing of good practice
- Fosters links between teams and institutions



"Leading learning in further education," the 157 Group and CfBT Education Trust (May 2011)

"Everything militates against it [focusing on T&L improvement]; the need to maintain financial viability, implement continual policy changes....the challenge is making time and keeping teaching and learning at the forefront"

(Quote from a College Principal, pg. 22)



Steps Snowball 1

**Can you identify how learning leaders can help improve T&L in their every day role?
Think about approaches and activities.**

Spend a minute reflecting quietly and then note ideas on post it notes



Steps Snowball 2

**Can you identify how learning leaders can help improve T&L in their everyday role?
Think about approaches and activities.**

Spend three minutes sharing points with a partner and identify several good ideas to share with the wider group



Good practice sharing

The snowball activity works well for encouraging structured and time-efficient sharing of good practice

In the pack there are further ideas for sharing good practice



Reflective questions

Coaching questions that focus on reflection and action steps can be very helpful for working with individuals and teams

Review the questions and identify several that you could try out with people at work



Trouble shooting activities

Team meetings can be a good opportunity for teachers to solve problems and suggest advice for each other's challenges in T&L

With your group, try out the problem solving scenario activity in the pack