

Developing Leadership

7 cost-effective ways to grow school leaders

Practical ideas for strengthening leadership through everyday routines

01 Present on leadership topics

Members of senior leadership teams take turns at weekly meetings to prepare and deliver five-minute presentations on important aspects of leadership.

02 Keep a leadership diary

Use self-reflection to build leadership capacity. For example: reflect on two leadership decisions made this week, why you acted as you did, and lessons learned. Schools could provide a diary to leaders.

03 Recommend leadership books

Leaders take turns recommending a "leadership book of the week or month". Consider buying a copy for anyone wishing to present a chapter at a meeting.

04 Share leadership quotations

Leaders share selected quotations in daily or weekly notices. Follow up by asking: "How and why does this quote relate to our school context?"

05 Read journals and articles

Share up-to-date articles from organisations such as McKinsey, and use school library subscriptions to access Harvard Business Review.

06 Explore leadership models

"All models are wrong, but some are useful." — George Box. Explore models such as the RACI matrix to clarify roles and responsibilities in cross-functional projects and processes.

07 Prioritise tasks effectively

Share experiences and good practice in time and task management. Tools such as the Eisenhower matrix can support better prioritisation.