

The Leadership Academy Programme 2016 - 2017

The Leadership Academy programme is a partnership venture between the Staff College and ADCS aimed at supporting the development of public sector leaders and managers. It seeks to provide senior leaders and managers working in the delivery of children's and adults' services and public health with the opportunity to meet, share practice and reflect on the challenges and solutions currently facing them. Through this interaction it is hoped to establish a personal support network which will, over time, provide opportunities for Assistant Directors/senior leaders to meet regularly, exchange practice and grow professionally.





Leadership Academy 2: New models for school improvement

25th January 2017

**Conference Aston, Aston University,
Aston St, Birmingham B4 7ET**

“The landscape of oversight, intervention, inspection and accountability is now complex and difficult for many of those involved in education, not least parents, to navigate.” - House of Commons Education Committee (January 2016)

International comparisons remind us that in successful systems a mediating or “middle” tier between the centre and schools is essential to:

- Implement reform
- Co-ordinate practice
- Facilitate collaboration

However, that middle tier is itself becoming increasingly diverse, while the Education and Adoptions Act (2016) extends the role of the Secretary of State, principally through the role of Regional School Commissioners, in challenging and intervening in maintained schools that are judged inadequate or coasting.

This thematic seminar will explore the changing role of the LA in a more autonomous and diverse school system, characterised by shrinking resources and weaker control and within which it has to share its power to intervene in the schools it maintains.

Leadership Academy 3: New learning and innovation in safeguarding practice

2nd March 2017

**The Studio, 7 Cannon St,
Birmingham B2 5EP**

“Without doubt social workers must be trusted to get on and do the job they came into the profession to do. We must be enabled to use our professional judgment in flexible and creative ways, rather than having to follow a procedural path or series of legal rules, far too automated to match the social complexity of the lives of the children and families with whom we work. We also need to work within the right cultural context which supports a practice system sophisticated enough to meet that complexity.” - Isabelle Trowler (Chief Social Worker for Children and Families)

Safeguarding and keeping children safe remains the key responsibility and challenge for all working in children’s services. The potential for things to go wrong constitutes the greatest risk to leaders. However, in a context of diminishing resources, uncertainty and ambiguity, social care practitioners cannot and should not be solely responsible for keeping children safe.

This thematic seminar will consider the leadership challenges associated with making safeguarding everyone’s business a reality and explore a range of innovative and encouraging practice, including restorative and family-centred approaches to provision.

Leadership Academy 4: Improving health and well-being outcomes – the role of Children’s Services in developing integrated practice

4th May 2017
(rearranged from 5th April 2017)

**The Embankment, Sovereign St,
Leeds LS1 4GP**

“None of these initiatives and commitments by themselves will be the difference between success and failure over the next five years. But collectively and cumulatively they and others like them will help shift power to patients and citizens, strengthen communities, improve health and wellbeing, and—as a by-product—help moderate rising demands on the NHS.” - (The NHS as a Social Movement: extract from the NHS 5 Year Forward View, 2014)

Closing the gap in health and well-being outcomes in economically and socially disadvantaged families remains an important and stubborn challenge for all working in the public sector. If the nation fails to get serious about prevention then recent progress in healthy life expectancies will stall, health inequalities will widen, and our ability to fund beneficial new treatments will be crowded-out by the need to spend billions of pounds on wholly avoidable illness.

In December 2015, the NHS shared [planning guidance 16/17 – 20/21](#) outlined a new approach to help ensure that health and care services are built around the needs of local populations. To do this, every health and care system in England will produce a multi-year Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), showing how local services will evolve and become sustainable over the next five years.

This thematic seminar will share learning from interesting and innovative practice that is emerging from STPs across the country.

Leadership Academy 1: Austerity, demand and resources – towards new public sector provision

14th June 2017
(rearranged from 6th December 2016)

Central London, venue TBC

“Public services face unprecedented challenges. Rising demand, changing demographics and increasingly stretched finances mean that the choice for local authorities and public service providers is stark: change the way they work, or face the possibility of service retrenchment, increasing irrelevance and perpetual crisis management.” - RSA (2015)

Annual, across the board, percentage contraction of resources is no longer sufficient. Challenging times require a radically different approach to public sector provision which reimagines the role and purpose of the local state to enable citizens, businesses, social networks and social sector organisations to play a larger role in producing public welfare outcomes.

This thematic seminar, based around recent research undertaken jointly by the Staff College and RSA, Changing the Narrative: A new conversation between the citizen and the state, will explore the leadership challenges involved building a new relationship between the public sector and the citizens it serves, using case examples of where this “new conversation” has begun to make a real difference.



The Academy is not a conventional conference, seminar or professional development programme. Rather it aims to bring together a small group of colleagues in order to exchange practice and, through facilitated working sessions and experiential “swap shops”, reflect upon and seek solutions to the challenges currently facing them.

The Academy seminars are characterised by all participants coming prepared to contribute as well as listen and, through this collaborative practice, enhance and extend the collective intelligence of our community. This process will be augmented by both formal and interactive contributions from leading professionals from Education, Health and Social Care. Through this blended learning approach it is hoped to provide a pedagogic balance between best professional practice and new learning challenges.

THE ACADEMIES WILL RUN FROM 09.30 - 16.30

Places on the 2016/17 series of Leadership Academies are chargeable at **£325 + VAT*** per seminar.

*A reduced rate is available for subscribing LAs, to find out more please [click here](#).

If you would like to book your place please complete the booking form and return to the Staff College team via: tony.watton@thestaffcollege.uk



PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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