

## Case Studies:

"I am a **teaching assistant** in a school. I felt I needed a group of other TA's around me to bounce ideas off. It felt lonely trying to lead new initiatives in school and I hadn't really known the best ways to do my job well. I joined a network of TA's in South Gloucestershire schools. We meet to share ideas and find answers to the common problems together. We have written a guide to support people coming into a similar role in South Gloucestershire which has been really well received."

"As a **governor**, I felt I wanted to play an active role in the development of my local school but could rarely be present during the day when the students and staff were present. I felt like I was visiting the school when the very reason for its existence was missing. I questioned the validity of my role and ability to support change. Talking with other governors, we realised we didn't know the strengths we would each bring to our roles. Developing coaching with other governors and staff in schools allowed us to build trust between each other, use our experiences out of school to lead the school compassionately and now we can share the impact of coaching with other governing bodies too!"

We used the money to fund a coach-facilitator to work with us and then with the staff in a later session. We paid to have a coaching log printed beautifully for all of us to use.

"As **staff** from 3 different schools, we wanted to make our curriculum more 'internationally focused'. Following video conferencing at our local secondary school, we all visited a local authority to see the innovative model for a global curriculum in place. Returning to South Gloucestershire, we have arranged days to work together to write a new curriculum that will directly impact on the children's learning.

We will lead the training of staff in each school and share the successes and pitfalls of our project together. We hope to lead the dissemination of our new curriculum, saving time for all and sharing our learning across South Gloucestershire schools."

"I had been a **teacher** for three years and wanted to take on a new role in school but there were no responsibility points available. I joined a Middle Leadership group, meeting with teachers from special, primary and secondary schools. I didn't think we would have much in common, but I could not have been more wrong! Many of the issues we were all struggling with had common underlying themes. As a primary teacher, I visited my local secondary school and spent time trying to understand the issues of forming an integrated multi-agency staff team based on smaller staff units. I led workshops on building professional learning communities and the staff, not just the teachers, all feel so much more committed to our new school development plan."

# Leadership Academy Fellowship Awards

Apply for a bursary of £600 to support you in developing an existing project or a new innovation that encourages you, in your individual or team leadership role, to collaborate with other professionals within and outside of your workplace.

### Associates :-

**Professor Louise Stoll** –  
Visiting Professor at London Centre for Leadership in Learning; Freelance Consultant and Researcher  
**Professor John West-Burnham** –  
Senior Research Adviser at National College for School Leadership; Consultant in Leadership  
**Professor Ron Ritchie** –  
Dean of the Faculty of Education,  
University of the West of England

- ♦ middle leaders ♦ education advisers ♦ those working with young people ♦ social care ♦ teaching assistants ♦ teachers ♦

An opportunity for **all** staff at **all** levels in schools, settings and across the Department for Children and Young People to have some money to spend in your way

**Do you seek to?** .....

- share your vision and values about the future you want to see for our children and young people?
- develop the potential of those you work with?
- encourage teamwork and learn collaboratively?
- partner with other organisations for the benefit of children?
- reflect on the past, live in the present and plan for the future?
- find the best way to do things, despite the constraints?

Then you are already involved in **Leadership** and this opportunity can be yours!

Apply for a bursary of £600 to support you in developing an existing project or a new innovation that encourages you, in your individual or team leadership role, to collaborate with other professionals within and outside of your workplace.

Further details are available from:  
[liz.townend@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:liz.townend@southglos.gov.uk)

Application forms and criteria are available through  
<http://www.leadersoflearning.net>

or

Michelle Sharratt  
([michelle.sharratt@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.sharratt@southglos.gov.uk)).

Applications can be submitted at any time.

Please phone 01454 868669 for further information.

*What's in it for me?* Professional development - an opportunity to explore innovative leadership learning or engage more deeply in an idea you have - accompanied by a chunk of money to help you out!

*Do I have to write up my learning as a formal research project with references and so on?* No - but a contribution to the website, a small presentation, pamphlet or other dissemination of your learning will make your efforts valuable to others too. You can gain accreditation if you wish to.

*I'm not a teacher, is this for me?* Absolutely - It's for anyone who works for the benefit of Children and Young People. You may or may not have face to face contact with children, but you are integral to an organisation that strives for their wellbeing and achievement.

Examples overleaf ...

- ♦ subject leaders ♦ finance officers ♦ CYP staff ♦ administrators ♦ health professionals ♦ governors ♦ bursars ♦