

Ealing's Lead Research Practitioners 2011 - 2012

Vision

The LRP project runs alongside other leadership development programmes such as the PLC and Middle Leadership programme, and shares the same core principles of empowering teachers to lead learning. The Lead Research Practitioners Programme is a cross-phase programme designed to support teachers who are aspiring middle leaders. The programme promotes an 'enquiry led' approach to tackling challenges in teaching and learning and aims to build capacity, strengthen networking and encourage innovation. LRPs undertake action research and work collaboratively and support their colleagues across phase and across schools. The LRP programme supports pathways to Excellent Teacher Status, Advanced Skills Teacher (or Specialist Leader in Education) status, MAs in teaching and learning and other leadership roles.

Programme

Schools nominate teachers for this programme in September; the target group is aspiring middle leaders, who are at least in their second year of teaching. Lead Research Practitioners are allocated to a named mentor at the Local Authority who supports them as they pursue their chosen line of enquiry. LRPs undertake action research in an area identified by their school's development plan and write up their work for a borough-wide publication.

Previous year's publications can be found on www.egfl.org.uk under the Teaching and Learning section.

Lead Research Practitioners develop their professional skills and knowledge, and are encouraged to visit other schools (as a reviewer in the Ealing Professional Learning Community where appropriate). LRPs are committed to sharing their learning in a variety of ways with colleagues in their own and other schools through:

- Networking with other LRPs and visiting at least one other school to observe practice during the year.
- Developing new approaches and materials to support their school's development priorities
- Trial innovative approaches and evaluating their impact
- Sharing their research and findings within their own schools, and beyond the boundaries of their school.

Tools

Use of enquiry:

A core conviction underpinning this project is that valuable learning happens when we pose a question to which we do not already know the answer, and then we collect evidence to help us answer this question.

Related projects

The Lead Research Practitioner programme shares principles and tools with the Professional Learning Community, the Post-16 PLC and the Outreach Network.

Further information is available on the EGfL at: www.egfl.org.uk/categories/teaching/BLC/leadpract/
Please send any queries about the programme to Carrie Sharman csharman@ealing.gov.uk or phone 20 8825 7549