

SESSION ONE SEMINAR OPTIONS

SESSION 1 SEMINAR TOPICS: Please make ONE choice

A Changemaker's guide to process efficiencies

Change is scary. It's only human nature to be wary of the unknown, and we find it far easier to stay put. But staying put doesn't get you anywhere. Why is change still this colossal, scary concept? After all, it doesn't happen overnight. To move forward and progress, we need to be constantly evolving. We need change. The key to getting ahead? Getting started.

Introducing the changemaker, an individual that quite literally treats every day like a school day. Ever wonder what their secrets are? How they implement a constant desire for improvement in their work? What really makes their processes tick? Developing ourselves into Changemakers helps to streamline operations, improve relationships, and work towards a better education system for all.

Take home points:

An understanding of what a changemaker is.
What the best changemakers have in their toolkit.
How to become a changemaker.

This session is for:

SBMs and other school support staff

Stephen Blackbeard, Regional Sales Consultant at We Are Every

Planning budgets in a post-COVID world

Budgets keep getting tighter and schools are constantly having to figure out innovative ways to save and spend their money. This can lead to the belief that long-term budget planning in schools is a pointless, hopeless endeavour – but that's not the case. Developing a long-term plan is vital; it's just a case of thinking outside the box and being determined to maintain a road map to success.

Take-home points:

How to prioritise expenditure.
How to make your budget meet the demands of your school.
How to stay sane whilst doing so.

This session is for:

School business leaders, finance managers and school leaders

Sue Birchall, long-standing school business leader

Positive leadership through the change curve

The world of the school business leader is changing so rapidly that it is sometimes hard to keep up. Over the last two years the change curve in education has hit vertical and SBLs need to deploy new tools to lead our teams through the changes. When organisation, technology, pedagogy and leadership are all changing, how do you remain positive when everyone's confidence is low?

Take home points:

The change management process to apply to your strategy.
Tools and attitudes for leading change.
Tips to stay positive

This session is for:

SBMs and other senior roles.

Emma Gray, Chief Finance and Operations Officer – Cotswold Beacon Academy Trust

Delivering remarkable school improvements with technology

Time and money are two very finite resources in schools and, according to recent academic research, more and more schools are dependent on In this session Royden Gothelf, RightICT, will share practical advice on how to deliver remarkable school improvements with technology and demonstrate how IT is intrinsically linked to school-wide improvements. The pandemic has highlighted just how important technology is for schools, and more schools than ever are looking at how they can improve their offering and infrastructure to support both staff and pupils.

This session will be a case study of one of his latest projects, with St James's school, a remarkable story that was nominated for the TES best use of technology award!

Take home points:

How IT is intrinsically linked to school-wide improvements.
What does your school truly need, IT-wise?
How to improve technical infrastructure.
How to make sure you are being as cost-effective as possible.

This session is for:

SBMs, school leaders and IT managers

Royden Gothelf, Director, RightICT

SESSION TWO SEMINAR OPTIONS

School-led tutoring - how to make the most of your grant and other practical tips

When it comes to way to teach and learn, the education landscape is evolving, and the pandemic has only accelerated the transformation. Tutoring will play a huge role within education to re-engage children with learning and provide better outcomes to disadvantaged pupils. Now is the time for teachers and tutors to come together as educators within the school system to bridge the gap and provide that much needed catch up support. The government's new school-led tutoring grant allows schools to choose their providers and offer a blended approach to learning in a completely new way. In this session Lucy aims to highlight how to get the most from your grant, practical tips around how to structure and run a blended learning programme, incorporating tutors into the school led teaching programme for better outcomes for the school and its pupils.

In this seminar Lucy Alexandra Spencer will explore:

- The changing landscape of education.
- The role of tutoring in the blended learning portfolio.
- How the National Tutoring Programme has evolved.
- The new school-led tutoring grant and what this means for schools.

Take home points:

- Advice on how to implement a tutoring programme within your school.
- Practical information surrounding the school-led tutoring grant.
- What to expect from your tutoring provider.

This session is for:

- School leaders and decision makers looking to utilise their tutoring-specific funding.

Lucy Alexandra Spencer

Sprinkling stardust on your bid writing. What do grant funders expect from us?

With over 5,000 funders in the UK, presiding over £1.5bn in grant funding for schools and charities, effective bid writing is becoming a core skill for many school business leaders. Although many applications are unsuccessful, often due to sheer weight of numbers, a significant proportion are rejected due to avoidable mistakes. So, how can you ensure your school's application is the one that will catch their eye? Justin Smith will walk you through exactly what the grant funders are looking for and how you can make your application shine.

Take home points:

- How to identify and select appropriate funding for your project.
- The essentials of a successful funding application.
- Recognise why applications fail; the pitfalls to avoid.
- Hear from the funders – what do they want to see from us?

This session is for:

- SBMs who would like to become more effective and successful in writing and submitting grant applications.

Justin Smith, managing director, Chameleon Consultancy and Training Ltd

The benefits of community engagement to your finances

In this seminar, Phil Burton, SBM at Hallbrook & Cosby Primary School, will dive into the reasons why engaging with the broader community is so important – both for strengthening relationships and for securing additional revenue streams for your school. He will take a look at some of the key strategies and tools you can use to engage with the community and increase income. Education can be slow to respond in its engagement, and Phil believes that not enough school leadership professionals focus on the wider perspective.

On joining Hallbrook, he discovered that the school had no strategy for community involvement or social media, and there was a lot to do in engaging the wider community; now, during enrolment season Hallbrook is having to turn people away and Phil – and his team's – work in keeping parents and the wider community engaged is a large part of that. Phil will use his own experience to discuss how he raised funds for his school throughout the pandemic, as well as looking at why engagement is important to schools and why you should be focusing on it.

Take home points:

- The importance of community engagement.
- Learning strategies to engage with the wider community.
- How to discover new funding revenues.

This session is for:

- Any education professional.

Phil Burton, SBM, Hallbrook & Cosby Primary School

How to combine efficiency with security in document management

Data security in the education sector is a major challenge and many school leaders can be reluctant to fully commit to a digital system. However, investing in electronic document management software can revolutionise the levels of security, efficiency and communication and even make a positive impact on the environment through reduced paper usage.

Take home points:

- Learn about practical strategies to assess your schools' needs and identify where technology could help.
- Document management will increase security and ensure greater safeguarding of your pupils' confidential data.
- An effective document management software system can integrate with existing school systems seamlessly.
- Document management systems support remote working whilst offering controlled access.

This session is for:

- School business leaders, SBMs and IT managers.

Paul Day, technical director, Filestream

SESSION 2 - SEMINAR TOPICS: Please make ONE choice

SESSION THREE SEMINAR OPTIONS

How to tackle digital exclusion, #BridgeTheDivide

Do you – like us – want to level the educational playing field and bridge the widening 18 month attainment gap for disadvantaged children who make up 27% of the UK's population?

Do you want to save your school money?

In this session, John talks about how LGfL are working in partnership with schools to #BridgeTheDivide and level the educational playing field for disadvantaged pupils, and how your school can get involved and start benefitting too.

Take home points:

Learn more about the mass procurement of up to 1 million Chromebooks and WinBooks, which saved schools millions of pounds.

A recycling initiative in which schools are supported to wipe and repurpose devices to help the worldwide device shortages.

LGfL's work with footballer Marcus Rashford, who featured the charity's Free School Meals Eligibility Checker on his campaign site #EndChildFoodPoverty, making it easier for parents to find out if their children qualified for Free School Meals and in doing so helping schools to generate potential Pupil Premium Funding claims for disadvantaged children.

How SLTs nationwide can get involved and work in partnership with LGfL to #BridgeTheDivide.

This session is for:

SBMs and IT managers

John Jackson, CEO of edtech charity LGfL - The National Grid for Learning

Does your catering support those who need it most?

Nicky Gillhespy, chief operations officer at LEO Academy Trust, discusses why, after a year that has brought school meals to the forefront, now is the perfect time to reconsider how you do catering in your school.

COVID-19, and the resulting lockdowns, have brought children's deprivation, food poverty and the increasing need to improve healthy eating to the attention of us all. So, how can you be sure that the catering you provide is doing the job it should be? Nicky has first-hand experience in transforming the way her trust delivered catering when she helped to set up an in-house catering service. She believes it is school leader's moral duty to do their best to improve things where we can, and this includes the provision of catering.

Nicky will provide practical tools and strategies to help you assess whether you are doing enough, and if not, how you can go about changing this.

Take home points:

Learn what different catering arrangements can look like.

How to assess whether your catering provision is sufficient enough.

Take away practical strategies to change how you do catering in your school.

This session is for:

SBMs and other school leaders

Nicky Gillhespy, chief operations officer at LEO Academy Trust

Kickstart for the future: how schools can make a difference in young people's lives

Shan Moylan at LEO Academy Trust, shares her experiences of working with young people from the Kickstart Scheme and takes a look at both the benefits and potential pitfalls involved. To date LEO Academy Trust has employed over 60 Kickstarters in various roles in the trust.

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on job security and career opportunities, with many young people finding it very difficult to secure a position after graduating, others being made redundant or losing casual employment. The Kickstart Scheme is a way that employers can support the young people in their local community to gain valuable work experience and skills.

Take home points:

Understanding the Kickstart Scheme and what it involves.

Being able to identify the roles and support you can offer and sustain in your school/academy.

An overview of the support package needed for Kickstart employees.

This session is for:

SBMs and other school leaders

Shan Moylan, CFO at LEO Academy Trust

Managing workplace sickness absence effectively and confidently

Managing workplace sickness absence effectively and confidently is something a lot will struggle with, particularly if you experience a high level of absenteeism in your school. To help manage this, Tracey Gray, education management consultant, has set out an array of ways to tackle and improve how we can manage and minimise absences, covering all aspects from dealing with difficult situations to supporting a returning employee.

Take home points:

Job retention v sickness absence management.

Supporting a returning employee.

The essentials of sickness absence management.

This session is for:

School leaders, SBMs and other school support staff

Tracey Gray, education management consultant

SESSION FOUR SEMINAR OPTIONS

SESSION 4 SEMINAR TOPICS: Please make ONE choice

Coping with post pandemic stress – what are the key factors to consider?

The arrival of the pandemic and the real threat to our work environments, and indeed our lives, has made many people acutely aware of their own stress levels, and the impact of these levels on our wellbeing.

However, with every threat, there is almost certainly an opportunity. In this case, this opportunity might take the form of a wholesale review of our current work-life balance, and the possible implementation of better ways to be and live. At the centre of this change must be our well-being and how we perceive and deal with stress.

Take home points:

Measurement techniques of stress that delegates can use to quickly measure stress levels.

Quick fix strategies to alleviate stress.

Longer term strategies based around five pillars which will enhance performance, health and enjoyment of life.

This session is for:

SBLs and school leaders

Ross McWilliam, freelance speaker and author

Pushing career boundaries to aid school improvement

Schools constantly evolve, as do the roles of the staff in them. As the needs of the school change, the staff must adapt their roles to cater to these needs – even if this means going outside of the usual remit of the job description. As a result of responding to the constant evolution of schools, the potential career pathways for non-teaching senior leaders are broadening. So, how can you or your team push your usual career boundaries to help further school improvement?

Take home points:

How to develop your role and thrive while doing it.

What the future of professional services leadership means in schools.

How to create opportunities in your own school and beyond.

This session is for:

Anybody in a leadership role.

Richard Harrison, director of community engagement, Regent High School

How to squeeze sustainability in to the SBL agenda

Unless you are banking on jetting off to Mars with Elon Musk, we only have one planet, so let's take better care of it now. But, how can your school or trust make adaptations to be more green? And how can the SBL play a strategic role in this whilst not dropping the other important aspects of school business leadership? Helen Burge, deputy chief operations officer at The Priory Learning Trust, discusses why and how sustainability needs to be embedded into the work of an SBL.

Take home points:

Learning practical approaches that you will want to share with colleagues back in school.

Turning thoughts of sustainability into actions.

Why urgent action needs to be taken now.

This session is for:

SBMs, estates leaders and other senior leaders.

Helen Burge, deputy COO, The Priory Learning Trust

No Session: Networking & Exhibition Time

KEYNOTE SESSION

How a good leader can raise the capacity of an organisation and reduce fear

Fear in the workplace is corrosive and the difficulties caused by the pandemic will have made people more afraid. In this keynote, Debbie Sutch, author of 'Fearless Leadership – unlock success using the secrets of the brain,' uses her knowledge and experience to discuss how to apply these principles to a post-pandemic education landscape. She explains her philosophy of Fearless Leadership and how to develop skills to be positive, inspirational, resilient and optimistic.

Take home points:

Gain an understanding of how a good boss can raise the capacity of an organisation and reduce fear.
How to build resilience and 'bounce back'.
Strategies to refine and sharpen relationships within your team.

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Debbie Sutch, Director, Fearless Leadership

No Session: Networking & Exhibition Time