



## Specialist Leader in Education

Are you an experienced middle or senior leader who's interested in supporting middle and senior leaders in other schools?

The Department of Education's SLE designation recognises the important role that senior and middle leaders play in improving schools and outcomes for children. This role is about developing the capacity and capability of other leaders so that they have the skills to lead their own teams and improve practice in their own schools.

## The role of the Specialist Leader in Education in the NSTA

The NSTA recognises the wide ranging nature of this role; SLEs may be asked to work in the following areas:

- Continuing professional development: e.g. INSET, twilights, training days
- Initial teacher training/NQT year
- School improvement work

## Within the NSTA

1. Lead in their subject area to support improvement across alliance schools.
2. To co-ordinate and lead a subject network group.
3. Share information about the CPD opportunities available within the NSTA to other leaders in their home school.
4. To be an active contributor to the on line presence of the NSTA.
5. Keep records of all aspects of support that you are involved in as an SLE.

## CPD and Leadership Development

1. To design and deliver CPD sessions for the NSTA programme.
2. To lead a Teacher Impact Group
3. To design and lead, as part of a team or as an individual, a workshops at NSTA INSET days.
4. To support the delivery of any Leadership CPD opportunities run by the NSTA.

## School to School Support

1. To provide support for teachers consistently satisfactory or weak (specifically in your subject area.)
2. To host visits from teachers in need of support to your classroom to see you teach.
3. To provide support for middle leaders in their own school and across the NSTA if appropriate.
4. To work as part of an SLE team who could lead and disseminate a subject or curriculum area review.

## Support may be provided in the form of:

1. *Undertaking learning walks/observations*
2. *Leading subject/departmental audits*
3. *Coaching and mentoring*
4. *One-to-one peer coaching*
5. *Facilitated group support/training*
6. *Data analysis*
7. *Joint action planning*

## **ITT**

1. *To deliver a session or workshop to the SD cohort.*
2. *To work with and host visits, when appropriate, on the NSTA school experience days.*

## **What you can expect from the NSTA**

1. Access to ongoing support and training

We will ensure that there's support available for you. The Teaching Schools Council in partnership with TSC South West have designed a regionalised approach to SLE training. You will be offered the initial training shortly after designation. As the national landscape of teaching schools develops our SLEs will be supported in accessing appropriate training opportunities.

2. Additional opportunities

You may also be able to engage with other areas of work – for example, research activity on behalf of teaching schools or working with national policy makers in relation to particular specialisms. Whatever your area of expertise, you can set your own goals and develop your career focused on your strengths and interests.

3. A time allocation of one period a fortnight.

Case studies of the sort of work that SLEs do can be found on the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) Blog.

<https://nctl.blog.gov.uk/2015/07/08/how-are-specialist-leaders-of-education-sles-being-deployed-part-2/>

<https://nctl.blog.gov.uk/category/school-led-system/sle/>