



CSL

Centre for School Leadership
Lárionad Ceannaireachta Scoile

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Newsletter

Issue 1

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Are you a principal? Would you like Coaching? CSL can help you!

There is a free, confidential, one to one coaching service for all principals in Ireland. It commenced at the beginning of February. A school leader's job can be demanding and challenging. Coaching can help principals achieve their goals, address those challenges and demands, and provide time and space for principals to reflect.

Coaching is a well-established leadership development service in industry and business, but this is the first time Irish school leaders will experience it for themselves. The phones are hopping in the offices of the coaching companies and over 150 principals have engaged with the service in the past few weeks.

To access the service, log on to the website at www.cslireland.ie and check out the 40 coaches in the 6 different regions around the country. Browse their biographies and choose the coach that appeals to you. There are 400 places available and each participant will be entitled to up to 7 sessions with a professional coach, along with a chemistry check. If you would like to avail of this excellent service, check out our website today!



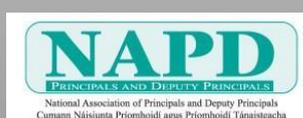
Aspiring Leaders' Programme

"Building leadership capacity in our schools"

A new Post Graduate Diploma in School Leadership (PDSL) for Aspiring School Leaders will commence in Autumn 2017. The programme will be jointly awarded by the University of Limerick (UL), the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) (including St Angela's) and University College Dublin (UCD). Additional academic support for the programme will be provided by Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) with delivery support from the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) and the Association of Teachers' Education Centres in Ireland (ATECI). Experienced school leaders will facilitate the course at each centre.



The programme will be a part-time (18 months) blended learning professional diploma, delivered locally in six regional locations throughout the country. There will be specific provision for teachers in Irish-medium schools in NUI Galway. Fees support for this programme will be provided by the DES/CSL, additional details will be made available shortly to teachers for September commencement. The course will be open to approximately 200 participants annually.





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*“Good Principals aren’t born;
they’re mentored”* (Wallace Foundation)

Quotes from the mentees



The CSL Mentor Training Programme and the current CSL formal mentoring relationships have been a real success story for CSL. By the end of this school year, over 300 primary principals and over 100 post-primary principals will be trained as CSL Principal Mentors.

Feedback from the training has been very positive and the generosity, camaraderie and enthusiasm of the participants has made this initiative a positive and enriching source of professional development.

The mentors speak about the opportunities for them to become reflective practitioners, to experience reciprocal learning and the importance of taking the time to engage in real professional dialogue. They have commented on the non-judgemental nature of the relationship, the amazing opportunity to learn for both mentor and mentee, and the positivity, enthusiasm and affirmation it brings to their own practice. Many have reported on the privilege of learning about another school and the way the mentoring relationship reduces isolation and has a very discernible positive effect on the mentee. The skills of listening, questioning and feedback are appreciated by all and used frequently in the mentors’ own practice.

The CSL team is committed to continued support, guidance and professional development for CSL mentors on Shared Learning Days. Watch out for more information on this from CSL.

My very positive relationship with my mentor is self-motivating, making me more positive in my work.

Excellent resource to lean on when you are expected to know it all!

A safe place and a sense of someone in your corner

Mentoring has allowed me to reflect on issues before acting.

Upcoming Calendar Events



- Cohort 2 Mentor training - Kilkenny 22nd / 23rd March
- Cohort 2 Mentor training- Ennis 4th / 5th April
- Cohort 1 Mentors’ Shared Learning Day 3- May 18th Athlone
- Cohort 2 Shared Learning and Celebration Day – May 19th Athlone

