


School Leadership Institute Lead and Aspire Mentoring Program



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Overview

The NSW School Leadership Institute (SLI) provides leadership development programs and support for current and future school leaders. Our vision is to enhance the capabilities of all educational leaders in NSW public schools, so they have the greatest impact on teacher and student learning. Our mission is to provide world class, evidence-informed, future-focused leadership development programs and resources to support school leaders at every stage of their career.

The SLI has established a new, high-quality mentoring program which will build the leadership skills of mentors and the capabilities of mentees.

The Lead and Aspire Mentoring Program will be piloted in Semester 2, 2024, before being offered more widely for teachers and leaders in NSW public schools.

The program is for leaders who wish to develop their skills in mentoring and who are willing to work with a mentee throughout the duration of the program. It offers a mix of live and on-demand learning as well as intersessional activities, supported by experienced leaders from the SLI.

Mentoring enables professional growth, skill refinement, and meaningful connections for both mentors and mentees, fostering a collaborative and enriching professional learning environment.

Mentor learning outcomes

The learning within the Lead and Aspire Mentoring Program is designed for educators at all stages of their career in all NSW public school contexts.

Upon completion of the program, mentors will be able to:

- understand the purpose and impact of effective mentoring
- implement foundations and practical skills for effective mentoring
- build and maintain mentoring relationships.



Program details

To enable participants to learn and practise the skills of mentoring, and to embed those skills, the program will consist of a conference, seminars and intersessional mentoring activities. Online intersessional activities are designed to support participants to continue learning in between scheduled events and reflect on their mentoring practice. A reflection summary will be submitted on completion of the program.

Program schedule

Tuesday, 6 August 2024	One day in person conference
Week of Monday, 14 October 2024	Online professional learning and reflection
Week of Monday, 4 November 2024	Online professional learning and reflection
Friday, 6 December 2024	Submission of reflection summary

Ongoing mentoring practice and engagement with 5 online activities, involving engagement with readings, podcasts and videos, and reflection on mentoring practice, will take place throughout the duration of the program.

Commitment and engagement

To ensure all program learnings are embedded, mentors are required to attend all sessions and complete all program components to obtain a Certificate of Completion.

Key themes

- Foundations and impact of mentoring.
- Essential skills for mentoring.
- The mentoring process in practice.

Ongoing support

The Lead and Aspire Mentoring Program team will be available at scheduled times throughout the program to answer any questions and/or support participants.

Reflection summary

At the completion of the program mentors will submit a 1000-word synthesis of their reflections throughout the program detailing how their mentoring skills have developed and how they responded to challenges they encountered during their development.





Applying to be a mentor

The program is open to teachers, middle leaders, senior leaders and principals in NSW public schools with an interest in becoming a mentor. Participants cannot be in the first 3 years of their teaching career.

Application criteria

- Identify and describe how your leadership has had a positive impact on other educators. (100 words)
- Describe how you have contributed to a culture that values seeking, analysing and acting on feedback to improve teacher effectiveness. (100 words)

Acknowledgement

By applying for this program, you are acknowledging that, if accepted, you are committing to:

- all elements of the program
- attendance and engagement at face-to-face and online sessions
- completion of intersessional activities
- completion of a reflection summary.



How to apply

Follow the steps below to complete your application.

Step 1

Speak to your principal or director about your intention to apply prior to submitting your application. A notification to endorse your application will be forwarded to your principal or director upon submission of your application.



Step 2

Speak to your principal or director and colleagues about who will engage in the mentoring process with you. The mentees must:

- commit to engaging in the mentoring process for the 18 weeks of the course
- be willing participants in the process.



Step 3

Details of where to submit your application will be made available in Term 2, 2024.



For more information:

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