



# NPQonline



**NEON**  
NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL  
ONLINE NETWORK

 **NPQonline**  
National online courses for school leaders

# Online vs face-to-face

The online environment is often an unknown place, particularly for more experienced school leaders.

It's very easy to fall back on what you are comfortable with when planning for training and development, and hard to now want to take a possible risk with what seems quite different.

It may be that your online experiences haven't been that good. Were you, for example, left to read lots of documents or information, and then asked to write a response that no-one ever read?

Things have moved on...

# Online delivers content more effectively

- NPQonline courses deliver the required content from the NPQ curriculum
- What is the maximum you can take on in terms of knowledge, skills and understanding from a day's F2F?
- In an online course this is spread across two facilitated weeks, plus resources which are available for the rest of your NPQ programme. This gives time and space to think and reflect.
- Participants, evidence shows, take on more and develop strongly during an online course

# Participants do not need supply cover

- The need for F2F days is reduced
- Participants can choose when they engage with an online course, for example, during PPA time, breaktime, or evening; at school, home or elsewhere
- This reduces workload as participants do not need to leave work for their class or pick up on marking and organisation on their return
- An online course can be worked on in chunks of a few minutes or longer. A F2F day requires substantial time, plus the cost, time and expense of travel.

# Course activities are all about structured reflection and communicating ideas

- During the two facilitated weeks of the course, participants are asked to engage with colleagues to develop their thinking
- The two weeks gives a much longer reflective time than face-to-face does
- Facilitation is a strong encouragement to participants to engage with the course, to reflect, and to try out improvements at school



# Access to resources is easy - on your phone, tablet or laptop

- The courses and their associated resources are designed so they can readily be accessed any place at any time
- This means participants can respond to activities whenever they have a few minutes – at breaktime, between meetings, waiting to pick up their children, etc.
- There are plenty of good ideas to share with colleagues, use in staff meetings, etc.



# An exceptional library of up-to-date resources

- What you get from NPQonline is an amazing library of up-to-date resources not available anywhere else
- In the previous version of the NPQ programmes, updating was an issue. Only NPQonline had updated materials at all times
- NPQonline resources are carefully selected by highly experienced developers all of whom are or have been school leaders
- Resources are summarised and précised so that participants can quickly decide what they want to explore in greater depth
- The length is carefully reduced to limit the time a participant needs to spend during the weeks of the course.

# NPQonline covers the content

- providers are relieved of the responsibility of creating extensive NPQ curriculum content and can concentrate instead on interpersonal 'how to' F2F activities
- The providers we work with use the days in different ways, for example,
  - preparation for final assessment
  - workshops for small groups
  - one-on-one sessions with a guiding headteacher
  - inspirational local speakers who are current school leaders

# NPQonline learning has a very positive impact on leadership development.

- Comprehensive evaluations carried out at the end of every online course repeatedly and consistently show that participants learn extremely well, compared to other environments
- More than 99% of participants complete each online course
- Evaluations are exceptionally high in every area



# Value at a time of austerity

- In an era of austerity, online courses offer incomparable value for money. And no cost for schools in covering staff out of school
- Online courses make it easy for administration, for meeting KPIs, and for guaranteeing learning and school development
- For providers, budgeting for online courses as a resource and knowing content will be covered, leaves a great deal of flexibility for other provision



# Online brings everyone together

- huge benefits in rural or widely spread communities, with NPQ participants working closely together despite being many miles apart
- Significantly reduced travelling
- Easy contact with colleague wherever you are, home, school or out and about



# Next steps

## Get in touch



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