

Leading the way in STEM

The delegates of cohort 2 on our Leadership in STEM Education course continue to make excellent progress as they work towards the completion of their professional enquiry.



To date, the group of 21 aspiring/ existing school leaders have completed professional learning on:

- ✓ The Scottish educational landscape
- ✓ Key policies and drivers in education
- ✓ Internal STEM school audits
- ✓ Self-evaluation of their own leadership skills and qualities
- ✓ 2-day residential course at SSERC HQ
- ✓ Developing leadership skills, handling conflict, coaching and leading teams
- ✓ Designing their own critical collaborative professional enquiry



The six-unit course is a blend of online, face-to-face and independent research and study. Spanning around 160 hours, the course covers a broad range of professional learning topics. Aligned to the GTCS standards for career-long professional learning and middle leadership means the content and learning is so relevant to the ongoing professional learning for primary and secondary educators in Scotland.



Our delegates will also gain the GTCS Professional Recognition Accreditation on completion of this course to acknowledge the *“enhanced, significant, sustained and reflective enquiry a teacher has undertaken and the development of their professional learning in a particular area”*.

Our delegates aren't just supported by the delivery team at SSERC, each of them has the commitment from their Headteacher and In-school Coach to ensure they are given the time and opportunity to complete a range of research and leadership tasks back at their centre.

Furthermore, the course is designed to bring as many external partners and agencies together as possible, all working together with SSERC to put the practitioner at the centre, encouraging them to see themselves as the learner, with input from:

- GTCS
- Education Scotland
- Skills Development Scotland
- Strathclyde and Stirling Universities
- Experts and consultants in leadership and management strategies
- Organisations that support STEM education



Activities & Professional Learning

"I have come to the SSERC Leadership in STEM course with almost 10 years of experience in a promoted post as Faculty Head of Science and have found the insight into leadership invaluable. Whether you intend to seek promotion or have experience in post the course has been an excellent opportunity to reflect on your skills and abilities within the profession and provides strategies to develop further. The modules have been engaging and have ignited a fresh sense of enthusiasm for reflective and enquiring practice within my career".

Andy, Renfrewshire.

"Participating in SSERC's Leadership in STEM Education course has had a positive impact on my personal and professional development, it has provided me with an insight into effective leadership strategies and principles and it has instilled a renewed sense of confidence and enthusiasm which has inspired me to take steps to progress in my career".

Donna, Midlothian.

"Like many of the other courses offered by SSERC, the Leadership in STEM Education course has been a highly valuable personal and professional development course for me. Not only has it allowed me to realise the skills and qualities I already possess as a leader but it has also provided me with tools and strategies to improve other areas of leadership as I progress through my teaching career".

Claire-Louise, Dundee.

Leadership in STEM Education course

"Taking part in the Leadership in STEM course from SSERC has really inspired me after ten years in teaching, giving me a renewed sense of excitement to career-long professional learning. It has allowed me to grow personally and professionally, and my colleagues have commented very positively on my development".

Ashleigh, Montros.

"The participation in SSERC's Leadership in STEM Education course has expanded my knowledge of STEM learning throughout the educational sector and given me a better understanding of the leadership skills and qualities I already have and how these might be developed further to improve my teaching of STEM subjects".

Rebecca, Glasgow.

"The STEM leadership course has allowed me to really study my school context and see more clearly my role in identifying and leading change where needed. I've enjoyed evaluating and developing my leadership skills in a supportive and encouraging environment and feel much more confident and motivated as a result. Leading the CCPE has given me a platform for introducing change at whole school level and strengthened relationships across the school."

Lorraine, Edinburgh.

Next steps

In June this year, our delegates will present the findings of their critical collaborate professional enquiry. This will see them complete the course and gain their final SSERC and GTCS certification.

Here's an example of some of the enquiries that have been investigated this year:

How can AI be used as an adaptive teaching strategy in a STEM classroom to build pupil autonomy and metacognition?

How/in what way does inter-disciplinary learning within STEM subjects impact the pupils' knowledge of STEM careers and pathways within the primary setting?

How does the delivery of a renewable energy-based STEM workshop change perceptions of STEM careers and green jobs?

Interested?

If you would like to know more about our Leadership in STEM Education course or are considering applying for a place for 2024/2025, please visit: www.sserc.org.uk/professional-learning/secondary-clpl/leadership-in-stem/ <<

