

Funded opportunity to join the Creative Leadership Programme



- Are you a teacher who is keen to be supported in experimenting with innovative, creative ways to bring the new curriculum to life in authentic, engaging ways for your learners?
- Are you ready to take your leadership skills to the next level within your school?
- Do you wish you had the time to try different ways of teaching and learning in your setting to assess what engages your learners?
- Are you overwhelmed by the amount of change in the education system in Wales at the moment?
- Could you do with a critical friend to help you make sense of it all?

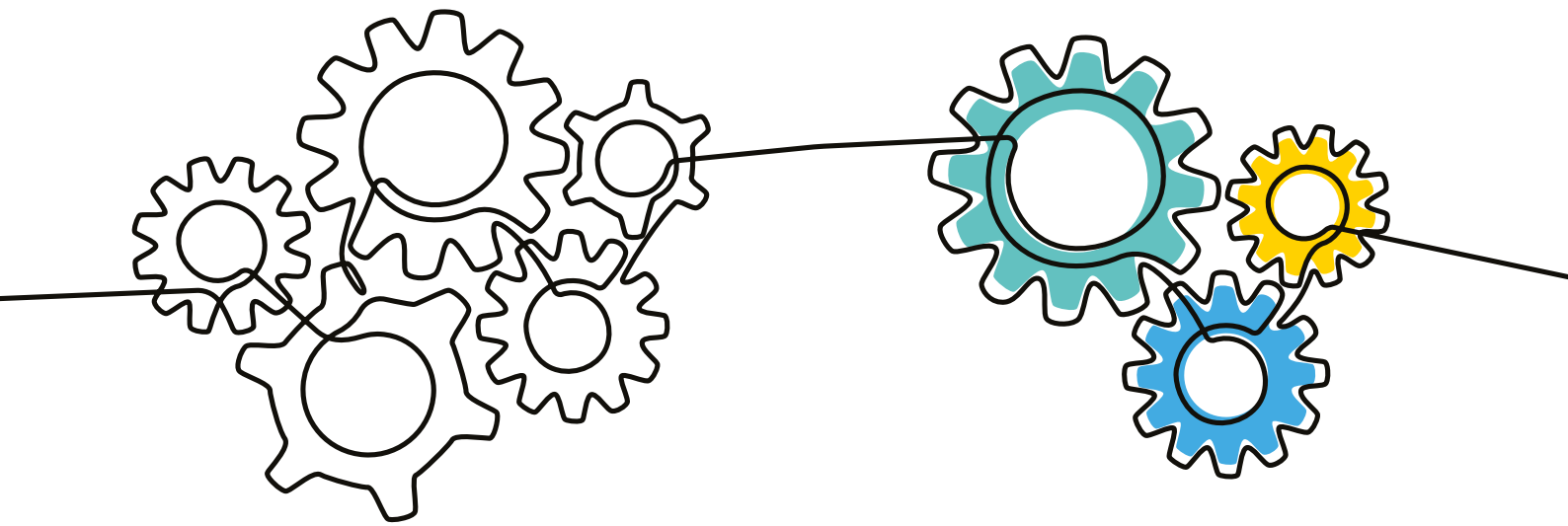
The Arts Council of Wales in partnership with Welsh Government are delighted to be able to relaunch an exciting opportunity created for middle/senior school leaders, endorsed by the National Academy for Educational Leadership to support school leaders to develop creative leadership within their own school settings.

The aim of the programme is to encourage confidence in new ways of working, innovation, reflection, and resilience whilst also developing the understanding of the role of creativity in the context of the Curriculum for Wales, the four purposes and the Professional standards for teaching and leadership. Within the programme, participants are encouraged to reflect honestly about their professional practice and contexts and identify the barriers that may impede their capacity to become creative leaders.

The programme is tailored to each participant's current stage of progression within their professional leadership career. You can make it work for you, so it doesn't feel like something extra to have to do in your busy day to day school life. Nothing to lose but lots to gain! Our model is based on evidence around effective professional learning and current guidance by Welsh Government. Our provision subscribes to the four-element design model of collaboration, reflective practice, use of data and research evidence and coaching.

The key themes of experiential learning, enrichment and creative skills development are also central to our work, which is increasingly being recognised as a key factor in helping to ensure successful implementation of the Curriculum for Wales.

A partnership between the National Academy for Educational Leadership Wales and the Arts Council of Wales



The process will begin with an in-person two-day training by the Arts Council of Wales. This will be an experiential and intensive learning opportunity with an emphasis on reflective practice. Participants will be challenged to reflect honestly about their professional practice and contexts, and identify the barriers that may impede their capacity to become creative leaders.

Following the two-day course, each leader will embark on an 18-20 week development programme and will be matched with a Creative Agent who will act as a creative leadership coach and critical friend. The programme will use an enquiry-based approach to develop participants' creativity, help them to initiate change within their setting, as well as the following:

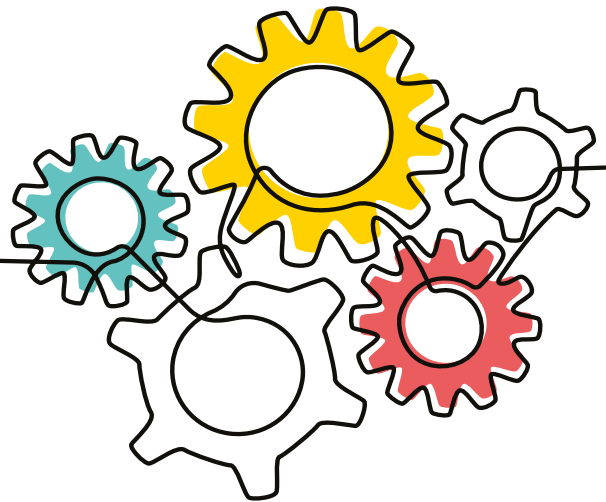
- Introduce participants to creative learning pedagogies and help them to build the confidence to disseminate the key principles to their staff.
- Develop an understanding of the central role of collaboration and co-construction in creative learning approaches.
- Promote an understanding of learning climates which encourage creativity, critical thinking and problem solving.
- Share examples of creative learning projects from the Creative Learning through the Arts programme and their impacts on teachers and pupils, as well as whole-school change.
- Encourage professional learning and teacher agency through experiential approaches, dialogue and reflective practice.
- Raise awareness of democratic spaces where all voices are considered important.
- Demonstrate how creative learning is an integral part of Curriculum for Wales, the national approach to professional learning and schools as learning organisations model.

It is important to stress that this provision will be a bespoke offer, led by your own identification of an enquiry question around Creative leadership, although a toolbox of ideas and approaches will be given. As the process develops, it will up to the participant to explore and trial new ways of working.

At the end of the process, middle/senior leaders will be required to complete an evaluation which demonstrates the impact of the enquiry on their professional learning and creative leadership, and begin to plan their next steps.

The provision inspires and motivates the current and next generation of leaders at all levels of their career, supports well-being and meets a diverse range of needs.

Feedback from school leader, 2022



Expressions of interest

We would particularly welcome expressions of interest from applicants from culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds.

All expressions of interest should be submitted by 12 noon 7th November 2024 via: [Expressions of Interest form for the Creative Leadership Programme](#)

Should your expression of interest be successful, the two-day training will take place in person in Mid Wales, 11th and 12th February 2025.

In addition, you will also be required to attend online networking meetings (am only) 19th March 2025 and 15th May 2025.

Also, an in person sharing event in mid Wales on 18th June 2025.

All supply cover costs will be provided for these dates.

Please note that attendance on all these key dates is mandatory and a condition of participation. It is also vital that you are available to meet with your Creative Agent for 3 days' worth of time during the enquiry.

The providers

This professional learning opportunity will be delivered by members of the Creative Learning team at the Arts Council of Wales.

The programme uses well-developed teaching and learning techniques that are specifically designed to be practical and relevant to schools and their real-life curriculum demands. These techniques are informed by extensive research from around the world into what makes a high-performing school.

There are currently over 1,307 schools across Wales that have engaged with or benefitted from our work.

Find out more

We have an information briefing on 8th October 2024 at 3.30-4.30pm online, which [we'd love you to join, by following this link.](#)



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#CreativeLearningWales