

Leadership Retreat for Trust Leaders



Over a three-year period, we supported Challenge Partners' Trust Leaders' Network by designing and delivering an annual two-day residential. The aim was to provide a safe space for trust leaders to explore and develop their own leadership, where challenge, support and inspiration would be offered to extend their thinking, and they could build strong connections with other trust leaders. The residentials were intended to act as a catalyst for change, equipping trust leaders with the confidence to take forward new approaches in their leadership and in the strategic development of their trusts.

Our design for the residentials was intentionally flexible so that we could work emergently with the needs, curiosities and interests of the participants. Each year we provided helpful frameworks as a stimulus for leaders to reflect on their own leadership strengths, priorities, and development needs, and delivered focused sessions on themes such as building leadership partnership, driving innovation and change, and leading well in stressful times. Peer coaching conversations as well as larger group sharing and reflections were both valuable part of the process, supporting deeper exploration, solution-building and practical, post-residential action planning. Participant feedback was extremely positive and several trust leaders have subsequently asked us to deliver similar experiences for their own trust leadership teams.



This residential was superb. We had a rare opportunity to reflect on ourselves, think about our practice and develop opportunities for our trusts. It was a rare opportunity to properly get to know other Trust Leaders and learn from each other. The input from the facilitators was very high quality and drawn from modern global leadership practice.

Gavin Henderson, CEO, Windsor Learning Partnership

The residential was by far one of the most powerfully affecting events I've attended. It was obvious, from the outset, that it had been expertly crafted to allow us all to step out of our day-to-day concerns and focus on our own effectiveness as leaders - something we so rarely have the luxury of time to do! The workshop facilitators were exceptionally skilled at creating a safe space in which we could all explore deep introspection - we got so much out of the two days as a result.

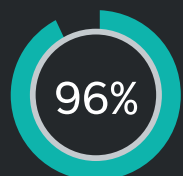
James Higham, CEO, Transforming Lives Educational Trust

"I have found this conference one of the most inspiring pieces of PD I have had at this leadership level. The level of trust developed very quickly within the group was amazing and ensured that participants were open and present throughout. The facilitation was excellent, just the right amount of uncomfortableness."

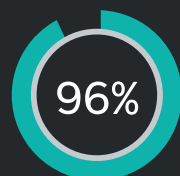
**Claire Banks, Director of Education,
Olympus Academy Trust**



Impact



of participating trust leaders across the three residentials rated the experience as 'excellent' (81%) or 'very good'.



of trust leaders across all three years agreed that they had gained new insights and tools to strengthen their leadership



100% of attendees found the residential valuable and were satisfied with their experience