Teaching Schools and System Leadership

July 2017

Contents

Summary

This is the latest in a series of publications to track the expansion of the network of system leaders. It presents the numbers of system leaders (NLEs, teaching schools and NLGs) designated by the National College for Teaching and Leadership as at 1 July 2017. Readers should be aware that that the figures in this publication may differ from the numbers derived from the [school to school support directory](#), which is intended to be used as a live tool to find a teaching school or system leader.

Expiry or review date

This information is published on a monthly basis reflecting the latest data at the start of the month. The next update is due in August 2017.

Who is this publication for?

This publication is for:

- School leaders, school staff and governing bodies in all maintained schools, academies and free schools

Main points

There have been considerable changes in the number of system leaders, as previous application rounds can now be reported. As at 1 July 2017, across England there were:

- 642 teaching school alliances, an increase of 54 from 1 June 2017.
- 814 teaching schools, an increase of 64 from 1 June 2017.
- 1,290 national leaders of education, an increase of 27 from 1 June 2017.
- 447 national leaders of governance, a decrease of 6 from 1 June 2017.

Introduction

The Department for Education is currently undertaking work to significantly expand the number of teaching schools and national leaders of education – with a targeted approach focused on areas where they are most needed in order to create a comprehensive national network of school-led support for leaders to draw on as they choose. There is a commitment to ensure all schools in all areas can access support, collaboration and best practice by ensuring full coverage of system leaders across the country

Teaching Schools and Teaching School Alliances (TSAs)

Teaching schools[1] are strong schools that work with others to provide high-quality training and development to new and experienced school staff. They are part of the plan to give schools a central role in raising standards by developing educational excellence everywhere. Teaching School Alliances (TSAs) are a group of schools, led by a Teaching School that work together to bring about improvements across the schools, focussing on initial teacher training, school to school support and professional development.

As at 1 July 2017 there were 642 teaching school alliances across England and 814 teaching schools. Both the number of teaching schools and the number of TSAs have increased since 1 June 2017 due to the addition of previous application rounds. Around 80% of TSAs had one teaching school although a few had as many as 5 or 6. Teaching schools were present in all nine English regions and in 149 out of 150 local authorities (LAs)[2]. The Isle of Wight is the only LA not to have a teaching school although it should be noted that teaching schools and teaching school alliances can work across local authority boundaries. The South East had the highest number of teaching schools with a total of 128 (15.7%), closely followed by the North West with 113 (13.9%). The North East had the lowest number of teaching schools with 51 (6.3%).

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[1] Further information available at system leaders: who they are and what they do.

[2] City of London and Isles of Scilly are excluded from the analysis as they only have one school.

Region	Number of Teaching Schools	Change from June 2017	% of all Teaching Schools
North East	51	6	6.3%
North West	113	10	13.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	95	10	11.7%
East Midlands	54	2	6.6%
West Midlands	93	8	11.4%
East of England	90	8	11.1%
London	111	3	13.6%
South East	128	14	15.7%
South West	79	3	9.7%
Grand Total	**814**	**64**	**100.0%**

Table 1: Number of Teaching Schools by Region

Source: NCTL Management Information

National Leaders of Education (NLEs)

National Leaders of Education[3] are excellent head teachers who, together with the staff from their National Support Schools (NSS), provide direct support to other schools, particularly those in challenging circumstances to help them improve by providing additional leadership capacity and expertise.

As at 1 July 2017 there were 1,290 national leaders of education, an increase of 27 from the previous month. This is primarily due to the reporting of additional application rounds. The vast majority of NLEs belong to different schools and only 35 schools have 2 or more NLEs. NLEs were present in 149 out of 150 LAs[4]. The Isle of Wight is the only LAs to not have a NLE although NLEs can work across local authority boundaries. NLEs were present in all regions. The North West is the region with the highest number of NLEs at 189 (14.7% of all NLEs), closely followed by the South East with 187 (14.5%). The North East has the lowest number of NLEs at 77 (6.0%).

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[3] Further information available at system leaders: who they are and what they do.

[4] City of London and Isles of Scilly are excluded from the analysis as they only have one school.

Region	Number of NLEs	Change from June 2017	% of all NLEs
North East	77	4	6.0%
North West	189	3	14.7%
Yorkshire and the Humber	154	4	11.9%
East Midlands	127	3	9.8%
West Midlands	141	8	10.9%
East of England	115	1	8.9%
London	172	0	13.3%
South East	187	9	14.5%
South West	125	-1	9.7%
Not Applicable	3	-4	0.2%
Grand total	**1290**	**27**	**100.0%**

Table 2: Number of NLEs by Region

Source: NCTL Management Information

National Leaders of Governance (NLGs)

National Leaders of Governance[5] are highly effective chairs of governors who use their skills and experience to provide coaching and mentoring support to another chair of governors to improve school and academy performance. In some cases, they work in partnership with a National Leader of Education.

There were 447 NLGs as at 1 July 2017, a decrease of 6 from the previous month. 130 LAs had at least one NLG and NLGs were present in every region. Yorkshire and the Humber had the highest number of NLGs at 78 (17.4%) and the North East the lowest at 24 (5.4%).

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[5] Further information available at system leaders: who they are and what they do.

Region	Number of NLGs	Change from June 2017	% of all NLGs
North East	24	-1	5.4%
North West	67	0	15.0%
Yorkshire and the Humber	78	-2	17.4%
East Midlands	39	-1	8.7%
West Midlands	29	0	6.5%
East of England	49	-1	11.0%
London	57	0	12.8%
South East	65	-1	14.5%
South West	39	0	8.7%
Not Applicable	0	0	0.0%
Grand total	**447**	**-6**	**100.0%**

Table 3: Number of NLGs by Region

Source: NCTL Management Information

National College for
Teaching & Leadership

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