My Thinking About Headship Journey

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This programme has truly been a useful and highly worthwhile preparatory step in my journey towards becoming a Headteacher. Working with colleagues in similar roles in other local authorities, has supported me to further develop my understanding of leadership from a strategic perspective. It has allowed me to see the bigger picture.

Appendix 2
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Understand Myself

It has encouraged me to look at my own practice and to identify the type of leadership qualities I hold and the leader I want to become.

Build Relationships

I have enjoyed working with colleagues from a variety of backgrounds. The professional dialogue has been superb and has allowed me to grow my network of support.

Learn from Others

I have enjoyed the many guest speakers and hearing about their journey and experience. It has filled me with hope and positivity. It has ignited something within me.

Develop a Clear Vision

It has helped me to clarify who I am as a leader and what my next steps will be. It has filled me with reassurance and clarity.

Next Steps

I have increased self-knowledge, leadership knowledge and system-change awareness. This programme has also helped me to further understand the impact of my leadership actions at a school, local and national level. It has made me question the decisions I make daily and has given me answers as to why I make these decisions. It has made me look more deeply at how these decisions/leadership actions impact myself, my staff and my pupils. Thanks to this programme I have secured a place on next year's Into Headship course. I am unbelievably grateful and excited. I can't wait to take this next step in my journey.

What have you learned about yourself and what does this mean for your leadership in relation to the role of headteacher?

I have learned:

- My Big 5-Learner, Discipline, Restorative, Responsibility, Developer
- More about myself as a person and leader-The type of leader I am and aspire to be
- I have more confidence when making decisions
- More confidence dealing with tricky situations and conversations
- I now have a bigger network of support and realise how important this is moving forward
- My emotional intelligence is not as strong as I thought, something I have really worked on this year
- I have a deeper understanding of Government policies and legislation and what this means for me in my current/future role
- I am more aware of my own personal values- (I believe these are ever changing as we grow and adapt to situations) Trust, Integrity, Honesty, Dependability, Self-Respect
- I am ready for the next step in my journey

What does this mean for me:

- I have increased knowledge of what it means to be a Headteacher and the weight of responsibility this brings (me eyes are wide open!)
- I have self reflection tools that I can use to help me process and reflect (professional learning/research, professional dialogue, situations). This is very important to me and has had the biggest impact on my practice. I will use this throughout my Into Headship journey
- I feel prepared and ready for the next step. The guest speakers and course leaders have truly been inspirational, a huge support
- I have the courage and self belief to face situations/conflict that I may have shied away from in the past
- I have a much better understanding of what makes a good leader and I am actively putting this into practice
- This has been an amazing opportunity, something that will stay with me forever. I will certainly call upon the things I have learned/knowledge I have gained to ensure I can be the best leader I can be