

TESLA TSA System Leader Glossary

Self-Improving School Led System

The self-improving system can be defined as one in which schools themselves, through greater autonomy and freedom, are in the driving seat of school improvement and professional development, working together to spread best practice, knowledge and experience to the benefit of schools across the system. Among other key developments such as the growth of academy chains and federations, teaching school alliances are key to this process through, for example, their focus on talent management, school to school improvement and research and development. The aim is that partnerships such as these will provide the drive locally and across the system to achieve improvement that would not otherwise be possible.

NCTL - School leadership for a self-improving system

Teaching Schools

The role of teaching schools is to work with others to provide high-quality training and development and support in their local area.

Teaching schools lead in 6 areas:

- School-led initial teacher training
- Continuing professional development
- Supporting other schools
- Identifying and developing leadership potential
- Recruiting and managing specialist leaders of education
- Research and development

System Leaders

System leaders are experienced practitioners who work with schools outside their own.

National Leaders of Education (NLEs)

NLEs are outstanding headteachers who work with schools in challenging circumstances to support school improvement.

Local Leaders of Education (LLEs)

LLEs are experienced headteachers who coach or mentor new headteachers or headteachers whose schools are in challenging circumstances.

Deputy headteachers and Assistant headteachers (DH/AH)

Deputy headteachers and Assistant headteachers are experienced leaders on the leadership spine who are members of a school's Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs)

SLEs are experienced middle or senior leaders with a specialism (for example, mathematics, initial teacher training, behaviour). This role is about developing other leaders so that they have the skills to lead their own teams and improve practice in their own schools.

Lead Practitioners (LP)

Lead practitioners are system leaders who are outstanding practitioners but are not officially designated as one of those described above.

National Leaders of Governance (NLGs)

NLGs are highly effective chairs of governors who support chairs of governors in other schools.