

Introduction

In 2015, we launched Professional Standards for the school leadership profession. There have been significant developments in the education sector since then, and we felt the time was right to review these standards to ensure both their natural evolution and relevance.

We are now operating as an institute, a move driven principally by the greater scrutiny on school business leadership practice and indeed the spotlight on ethical leadership across the leadership triangle of pedagogy, governance and business.

There are many new iterations of school business leadership; some operating as generalist, some as specialist and indeed now a number of practitioners operating at senior executive level. These are now all accommodated within our revised standards. Many SBLs will now be working across multiple establishments and in some cases multiple regions as centralisation becomes more commonplace. But with greater opportunity comes increased accountability.

The standards continue to set out a clear blueprint for effective school and academy business leadership. They impose no glass ceilings on the profession but continue to recognise that practitioners are at different stages in their professional journey.

The standards continue to provide a reference point for recruitment, performance management and career development activities and are often used by professionals, their employers and training providers.

Practitioners should use the standards to inform their personal professional development plans: employers should use them to support performance management and to develop their teams; and indeed, those responsible for governance should use the standards to help frame appropriate challenge and positive critique.

ISBL membership is now directly linked to the four tiers described in the Professional Standards with a unique professional institute category available for those at entry level through to those operating as senior executive leaders.

We are proud to promote a set of Professional Standards designed to support school business leaders so that they can better serve their learning communities.



Stephen Morales

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