

CIPFA's relationship with ISBL

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has been developing standards and training professionals for over 100 years and has worked extensively across the schools sector. We are proud to have worked with ISBL in developing the first standards for business management professionals in schools and academies.

Our Certificate in Financial Reporting for Academies set the benchmark technical qualification for school business managers and formed the foundation of training programmes that have been developed and recognised by CIPFA and ISBL as contributing to meeting the financial management and reporting aspects of these standards.

Reductions in pupil funding and the growth of autonomous academies and trusts has put financial management at the heart of supporting excellent teaching and learning in all our schools. We work with ISBL and other partners to bring this support directly to school business managers, and we hope to see many school finance professionals meeting and progressing through the professional standards.

CIPFA and ISBL are now partnering to professionalise these roles to meet the new challenges by offering a Level Seven Certificate in School Financial and Operational Leadership.

This innovative training programme provides a flexible blend of e-learning, workbooks and face-to-face sessions to enable those working in the schools sector to develop their skills in:

- Financial management and reporting
- The education funding environment
- Undertaking business cases and investment decisions
- Governance, accountability and assurance
- Procurement and contract management
- Liaising with, and providing information to, internal and external auditors

The programme provides a pathway for all roles within the finance or business management function in schools, single academies or multi-academy trusts (MATs) and is ultimately designed to support those who aspire to be the senior finance practitioners of the future and may be starting their career progression from different points.

We warmly encourage you to join us on that journey and in doing so help secure a sustainable future for our schools.

Rob Whiteman

Chief Executive CIPFA

Be part of your professional body – join ISBL today

The capacity to improve as a profession comes from within our own networks. As practitioners, if we stand united with a single common purpose, we will have more influence over sector developments and ultimately greater professional recognition and status. Professional membership of your Institute ensures a coordinated single voice. Follow this link to become a member today:
<https://portal.isbl.org.uk/registration>