



Why is student leadership so important in secondary schools?

Alex Ireland

Higham Lane School



Let me introduce myself...

Alex Ireland:

University of Warwick PGCE: 2016

University of Warwick Masters: 2017 - present

Higham Lane School 2016 – present



Assistant Subject Leader for History & Politics

Whole School Coordinator for Student Leadership & Extra Curricular

Currently in my final year of a Masters in Professional Education at the University of Warwick, with Student Leadership as my research focus.



What is Student Leadership?

Simply put, student leadership is the umbrella term for any kind of **student lead** activity.

It could involve:

Form Representatives

Anti-Bullying Initiatives

Student Council/Voice

Head Boy/Girl

... and a whole host of other things.



Research into Student Leadership

NCSL National College for
School Leadership

Inspiring leaders;
improving children's lives

Student Leadership and School Improvement

How can school leaders involve
students in the school improvement
process through developing students
as researchers?

Recognising student leadership – Schools and networks as sites of opportunity

Submission for journal *Improving Schools*

Developed from a paper presented at Conference 'Pupil Voice and Participation: promises, pleasures, pitfalls. 22nd/23rd May 2006 University of Nottingham. See www.pupil-voice.org.uk

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Review by Christopher Day and Pamela Sammons

Successful school leadership



My research into Student Leadership

Currently completing my dissertation as the final part of my Masters in Professional Education at the University of Warwick.

Research project is titled:

“How do different leadership styles, as outlined by Andy Buck and Stephen Covey, impact the effectiveness of Student Leadership, as perceived by students, and other stakeholders in Secondary Schools?”

This project aims to:

1. Ascertain the aspects of educational (Buck) and business (Covey) that are applicable to student leaders.
2. Implement these in the form of leadership initiatives.
3. Measure their impact and recommend the most suitable styles for student leadership to follow.



What does great student leadership look like in schools?

Firstly, it's important to ascertain the objectives...

What are you wanting Students Leaders to do?

Are staff too involved?

Are staff involved enough?

How are you measuring their impact?

It is essential that Student Leadership isn't seen *as something for the kids to do*, but instead as an **integral part of any successful school**.



How can I get involved with student leadership as a trainee/NQT?

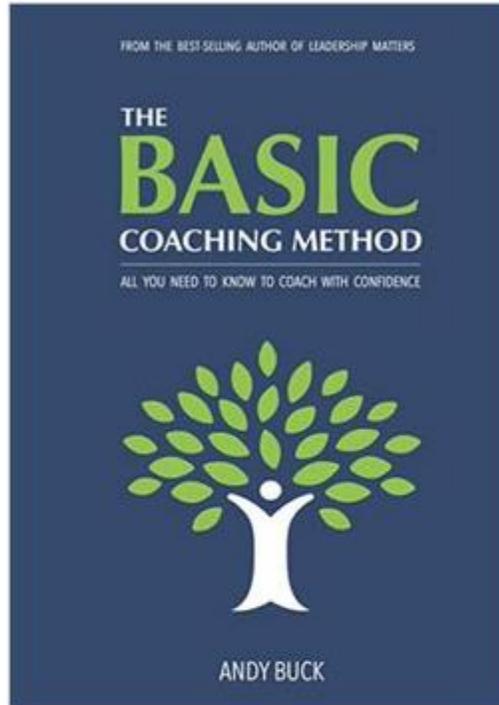
First thing to do is ask!

Find out who is your Student Leadership lead – it is often an Assistant Head, but in some schools (like mine) there is an appointed Coordinator role.

All Student Leadership projects need staff guidance – what expertise can you lend? What value are you adding to the process?



Q&A

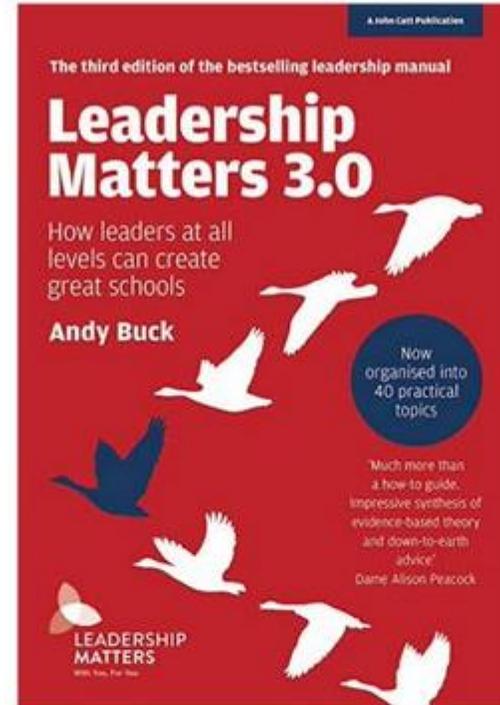


The Basic Coaching Method

by Andy Buck

★★★★★ ~ 15

Perfect Paperback



Leadership Matters 3.0: How Leaders
At All Levels Can Create Great
Schools

by Andy Buck

★★★★★ ~ 54



HONK! When teams come together,
organisations fly

by Andy Buck , Fergal Roche, et al.

★★★★★ ~ 2

Paperback