



ISBL

Institute of School Business Leadership



Association of Business
Leaders in Education

2023 East Midlands Regional Conference Agenda



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Agenda at a Glance

08:30 - 09:10 - Registration, Networking, and Exhibition

09:10 - 09:40 - Welcome Address

09:40 - 10:10 - Leading the Self, Leading Teams, Leading Communities

10:10 - 10:30 - Headline Sponsor Address

10:30 - 11:00 - Morning Refreshments, Networking and Exhibition

11:00 - 11:15 - Partner Address from Schools Advisory Service

11:15 - 11:40 - Lightning Talks

11:45 - 12:30 - Morning Workshops:

Fearless Self-
Empowerment

Prevent: The
Terrorism &
Extremism Risk
Picture

Sponsored
Workshop

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch, Networking and Exhibition

13:30 - 14:00 - Squaring the Circle of National Priorities and Regional Needs

14:00 - 14:45 - Afternoon Workshops:

Immigration and
Recruiting Staff
from Overseas

Tips from SRMAs: A
Picture from Local
Deployments

The East Midlands
Regional
Unconference

14:45 - 15:15 - Refreshments, Networking, and Exhibition

15:15 - 16:00 - Conference Closing Panel: Visibility, Budgets and Your Biggest Challenge



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Registration, coffee, pastries, and networking

08:30 - 09:10

Welcome to the ISBL and ABLE East Midlands Regional Conference. Grab your name badge and lanyard, help yourself to a hot beverage and pastry, and mingle with your peers.

Conference Welcome Address

Lawrence Room

09:10 - 09:40

Join us in the main plenary for some essential housekeeping, some tips on how to enjoy the day and to hear how ABLE and ISBL can support you, your professional ambitions and the needs of your school or trust.

- **Stephen Morales, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL)**
- **Frances Rowland, Chair, Association of Business Leaders in Education (ABLE)**
- **Karen Bonser, Director, Association of Business Leaders in Education (ABLE)**

Leading the Self, Leading Teams, Leading Communities



Lawrence Room

09:40 - 10:10

There are no quick wins for becoming an effective leader and the qualities of leadership are both contextual and constantly changing. In this inspiring keynote we'll explore all the facets of effective leadership starting from the self and moving to the civic leadership with which School Business Professionals have become accustomed.

To deliver this session, we've invited noted leadership experts with tangible experience from the field and inspirational takeaways.



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Headline Sponsor Address

Lawrence Room

10:10 - 10:30

Morning Refreshments, Networking and Exhibition

10:30 - 11:00

Head to our catering points for a recharge, mingle with colleagues and chat with the expert voices of our exhibiting companies. There is a rich mix of specialist knowledge in the corridors so be sure to increase your network of support by asking them how they might help you.

Partner Address from Schools Advisory Service

Lawrence Room

11:00 - 11:15

As well as being a DfE Approved Supplier of Staff Absence Insurance, Schools Advisory Service is a national thought leading voice in staff wellbeing with services and expertise to cover a truly holistic interpretation of wellbeing.

Lightning Talks

Lawrence Room

11:15 - 11:40

Learn about the latest updates from ABLE Partners Zenergi, ATOM IT, SAAF, Education Mutual, and Breedon through a morning burst of lightning talks. These short introductions are designed to give you amuse-bouche of how each partner can help you. Be sure to follow up with our partners on some of their offers directly at their stand.



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Morning Workshops

11:45 - 12:30

Lawrence Room

Fearless Self-Empowerment

Digging deeper into the leadership lessons from the morning keynote, we invite colleagues to join us to take a journey into self-empowerment. It's difficult to light a fire in someone if you've neglected to feed your own.

Chatterley Room 1

Prevent: The Terrorism & Extremism Risk Picture

- Mapping a picture of the prevalent risks in 2023 and an update on ongoing threats
 - Don't go it alone – What's already available to Schools and Trusts in the way of resources, networks and support
 - What does 'Effective Risk Assessment' mean in the context of your setting
 - Training and Development: Tips for using your best assets – your team
 - **Alamgir Sheriyar, Regional Prevent Coordinator, Department for Education (Invited)**
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Chatterley Room 2

Sponsored Workshop

Lunch, Networking and Exhibition

12:30 - 13:30

Grab a bite to eat and digest the mornings learning through conversation with colleagues. Don't forget to ask our exhibitors about their offers and enter into the competitions on offer, you can't win if you don't enter.



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Squaring the Circle of National Priorities and Regional Needs

Lawrence Room

13:30 - 14:00

How are the governments priorities for the sector supporting schools and trusts in the east midlands? We've invited Carol Gray, Regional Director for the East Midlands to set out the vision for regional support and improvement.

- **Carol Gray, Regional Director for East Midlands, Department for Education (Invited)**

Afternoon Workshops

14:00 - 14:45

Lawrence Room

Immigration and Recruiting Staff from Overseas

According to a recent report published by the House of Commons Library in the 2019-20 financial year there was a sharp decrease in the number of QTS awards to overseas staff in comparison to the 2015-16 peak. The UK witnessed a 49% decrease of QTS awards from the EEA and 31% decrease in those awarded to candidates from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States.

With new government initiatives designed to target staff around STEM subjects and with no drop in demand from schools, it's vital that School Business Professionals are not missing out on this talent pool. In this workshop we'll explore how schools and trusts can effectively navigate the recruitment of overseas staff.



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Chatterley Room 1

Top Tips from SRMAs: Trends from an Aggregate Picture from Local Deployments

School Resource Management Advisers have helped hundreds of schools and trusts to improve practice right across the broad surface area of a School Business Manager's responsibilities. In this workshop we'll explore some of the common areas for improvement offering quick wins and simple fixes. We'll also explore some of the areas where a shift in understanding a problem has resulted in newfound capacities to tackle them.

- **Rebecca Beaver, SRMA, Lead Consultant at RBMA Consultancy, and ISBL Fellow**
- **Christopher Dryer, SRMA, Director Of Finance And Operations at St. Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust**

Chatterley Room 2

The East Midlands Regional Unconference

What exactly is an unconference? The idea has been around since the mid-nineties, and ultimate purpose is to directly respond to the big challenges in the room while prioritising conversation over presentation.

We've all attended events where the big conundrum we came to unpick was left untackled. We've also know that some of the best peer-to-peer learning happens over a coffee or tea in the breaks.

An unconference is designed to give the freedom to attendees to select the themes most appropriate to their needs. It's also an opportunity to broker relationships between peers in a structured format, matching strengths to weaknesses. We'll kick off by polling the room, finding the common topics and then we'll seek to address them with the best assets of the conference, the skills and insight of the people sitting next to you.



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Afternoon Refreshments, Networking and Exhibition

14:45 - 15:15

Reflect on the days learning before we head into the closing panel discussions. Grab a light bite and a hot drink to refuel and get ready to ask our experts your burning questions

Conference Closing Panel: Visibility, Budgets and Your Biggest Challenge

Lawrence Room

15:15 - 16:00

In this discussion we'll invite ABLE members, local SBPs and national representatives from the Institute for School Business Leadership, to discuss the big ticket issues of the day. If you've not had your question answered today, this is your chance to engage our panel of practitioners and experts.

Looking first at the ever-present challenges of budgets and professional visibility, we'll also reflect on the key topics that came out of the unconference.

Conference Close

@ 16:00

Thank you for joining us at the ABLE and ISBL East Midlands Regional Conference 2023. Don't forget to collect your raffle prizes before you go and be sure to leave feedback with the team on your experiences from the day.



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Our Tips for Having a Great Conference Experience

Every event is uniquely different because the rich mix of speakers, delegates, sponsors supporters and exhibitors. Follow our top tips and leave the conference with questions, answered and new relationships forged .

Engage with Exhibitors & Sponsors

The organisations supporting the conference are a great wellspring of innovation for your school or trust. Find out how they are helping clients to and ask about bespoke offers to fit the needs of your setting.

Make Connections

Our conference is the perfect place to build a network of support to help you through the months, years or decades ahead. Don't be afraid to engage the practitioners sitting around you.

Crowdsource the answers to your problems today and don't be afraid to keep in touch!

Ask Questions

There is at least one person at the conference who can help you solve the big challenge. Use the sessions, panels and especially the unconference to get direct answers to the things keeping you awake!



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