

# Lesson Plan: Using the Enterprise Catalyst within leadership

## Background

School and college work should support learners in the development of their leadership skills. Whether individuals take on the formal role of a leader they will be required to take the lead in a range of different situations. Formal leaders include senior managers, business owners, politicians, sports team captains etc. However, informal leadership can be applied to classroom discussion, project work, making effective decisions etc.

## Aims of this lesson

The aim of this session is to raise awareness of the way in which our attitudes and preferred ways of thinking and behaving will have a powerful effect upon our capacity to act as effective leaders. The core objective is to appreciate and benefit from our own preferred approach to leadership.

## Why use the Enterprise Catalyst?

Using the Enterprise Catalyst helps young people to:

- Explore the different types of leadership style
- Develop awareness of their preferred style and understand how the combined skills of different individuals leads to a more successful outcome
- Understand what leading and following is all about

## Activity

Introduce students to the overall aims of the session, i.e. to understand their personal approach to leadership

Invite students to complete Enterprise Catalyst (if they haven't already done so)

Generate a discussion about effective leaders and effective leadership Depending upon class size this discussion can take place in sub-groups within the class or involve the whole classroom group). Ask the group to nominate effective well-known leaders they know from a series of sectors – politics, sport, business (ensure the list has a useful spread of age, gender, ethnic background). Invite the group to nominate leaders closer to home from within the school – teachers, managers and fellow pupils.

Capture the list on a white board/flip chart and then ask the group to make a list of the attitudes and behaviours of these effective leaders – what do they do that makes them great. If you were to watch them, what would you see them doing? How do they talk, how hard do they work, etc?

Present the PIE Chart graphic of the different Enterprise Catalyst Team roles – explain what the strengths of each style are using the Enterprise Catalyst report, and then ask the group to work in pairs talking about their own preferred role as a leader, how that has an effect upon how they behave as a leader and what they could do to make themselves more effective.

One of the important objectives of this session is to ensure learners understand that there is no one correct way to become an effective leader. Everyone of us has to develop our own style based upon the way we prefer to think and behave – eventually we may need to develop further styles and skills as part of our ongoing learning and development.

Invite the students to pair up with someone who has a very different style to them to discuss how they could combine their styles to become an effective leadership team.

### **Outcomes**

At the end of this session students should understand what leadership is and what their preferred style of being a leader is. It is important to highlight that we can learn many new style and build a more skilful approach to leadership, but it is important to know where we start from.