

Dr Lesley Hunter



Lesley Hunter is an internationally recognised expert in authentic leadership and effective leader development.

Her early career in schools, Further Education Colleges, local authority and school inspection crystallised her understanding of the impact of effective leaders on the capacity for improvement and the sustainability of performance at all levels in an organisation.

After 12 years of owning and running a highly successful educational consultancy and inspection agency in the UK, Lesley expanded her work internationally through contracts in Spain and Gibraltar. She then completed an additional degree (BA in Business & Enterprise) and transferred her focus into work with leaders across the spectrum from small businesses to public sector, police, local government, military and corporate sector clients, including global manufacturing firms, while continuing international development with clients, such as Management Center Europe and OPCW in The Hague. A key focus of Lesley's work during this time was on training and qualifying in-house staff in organisations as professional coaches through the Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) programmes.

This eclectic background formed the foundation of Lesley's doctoral research into leader behaviour and resulted in the publication of a behavioural framework and diagnostic assessment for leaders - The Effective Leader Inventory (ELI). On completion of this research, Lesley relocated to Abu Dhabi and lived there for 3 years. She returned to work in the education sector, using her leader diagnostic with over 500 school leaders to support their personal development and drive organisational improvement. Lesley has subsequently been appointed as an adviser to the Crown Prince Court in the United Arab Emirates, with a focus on strategic leader development in 1,200 schools across all Emirates and is the lead consultant for the national implementation of a Moral Education Program - a position she retains today.

Lesley has achieved a rare balance of consultancy, online programme delivery and practical leadership coaching that is supported by her academic credibility through association with several Universities. In the UK, Lesley has worked with Edinburgh Napier and Teesside University, through which she has taught on formal courses, developed and delivered workshops, designed and delivered online programmes and carried out student supervisions to Masters level. She is currently an Adjunct Professor for Kings College of Professional Development in Ras Al Khaima (RAK, UAE) where she supervises students and delivers modules on strategic leadership, change management and organisational development for a M.Sc. in Health Care management, accredited by Swiss Business School and American University of RAK.

In parallel to her ongoing consultancy and leadership coaching, Lesley also owns and manages a publishing company that currently produces books on the topics of leadership and leader development.