SATIPS
Support
Education
Training

LEADING WITH CONFIDENCE: PREPARING MIDDLE LEADERS FOR ISI INSPECTION



Target Audience This course is tailored for Heads of Department, subject leaders, curriculum coordinators, and middle leaders working in independent schools inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI).

It is suitable for academic and pastoral leaders across all phases, including those in HMC, GSA, IAPS, ISA, Society of Heads, and AGBIS member schools.

MONDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2025

4.00PM TO 6.30PM

Course Purpose

This specialist training equips middle leaders with the regulatory understanding, strategic clarity, and practical tools required to lead their areas with confidence under the current ISI inspection framework.

Key Questions Addressed

- What are the expectations for departmental leadership under the revised ISI framework?
- How can subject and pastoral leaders demonstrate the impact of their work?
- What evidence should be prepared in advance of inspection, and how should it be presented?
- How can departmental policies, practices, and curriculum delivery align with wider school compliance?

Training Content

1. Understanding Compliance at Departmental Level
Participants will examine how departmental responsibilities contribute to overall school compliance with the Independent School Standards Regulations (ISSRs), the National Minimum Standards (NMS) where applicable, and the EYFS statutory requirements. Guidance is provided on areas including curriculum intent and implementation, safeguarding, policy alignment, and leadership accountability.

2. Preparing and Presenting Evidence to ISI
This session provides a clear structure for preparing departmental evidence for inspection. It includes curriculum mapping, assessment strategies, lesson observation readiness, book scrutiny preparation, and how to articulate departmental strengths, challenges, and impact with precision.

3. Common Areas of Non-Compliance
Leaders will be guided through typical areas of departmental weakness highlighted during inspections, such as inconsistent curriculum delivery, limited assessment analysis, or ineffective provision for diverse learners. The session offers strategies to identify and address these issues proactively.

4. Strategic Departmental Leadership
We will explore how effective middle leadership contributes to school-wide improvement. Focus areas include using data to inform planning, securing high-quality provision for all learners, evaluating departmental effectiveness, and contributing to the school's self-evaluation and development planning.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the training, participants will:

- Understand their inspection responsibilities under the current ISI framework
- Be equipped to present departmental strengths and impact with clarity and confidence
- Know how to prepare effective evidence for inspection across all regulatory areas
- Be ready to work collaboratively with SLT in supporting inspection readiness and ongoing school improvement.

Presenter: Beth Harris

Beth Harris is a senior education associate with JMC Education. She has extensive experience in supporting independent schools to prepare for inspection under the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) framework. A former school principal and leadership advisor, she specialises in school improvement, compliance, curriculum leadership, and inspection readiness.

Beth has worked nationally and internationally with independent schools across a range of affiliations, including HMC, GSA, IAPS, and AGBIS. She has successfully supported leadership teams, middle leaders, and governing bodies in preparing for ISI inspections, delivering strategic CPD on compliance, curriculum implementation, and leadership accountability.

Her work includes designing inspection preparation programmes, delivering policy and evidence audits, and leading governance and departmental training aligned to current regulatory expectations. This course draws on her expertise in translating inspection criteria into practical departmental leadership action, enabling middle leaders to demonstrate impact and ensure their provision meets the highest standards.

Details

The Webinar will be online, using Zoom, and delegates will be sent a code in order to sign in. Delegates will be provided with all the materials and the Powerpoint as a pdf.

Cost Per Delegate

SATIPS MEMBER SCHOOLS EARLY BOOKING (PRIOR TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2025)	£63
(MEMBER SCHOOLS WHO BOOK 3 OR MORE DELEGATES PRIOR TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2025 WILL BE CHARGED £53.00 PER DELEGATE)	
SATIPS MEMBER SCHOOLS (FOR BOOKINGS BETWEEN 15 SEPTEMBER AND 22 SEPTEMBER 2025)	£75
NON- MEMBER SCHOOLS	£85

No bookings will be taken after 22 September 2025

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