

Professional Learning Communities:
source materials for school leaders and
other leaders of professional learning

Contents guide

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Booklet 1: User guide: getting started and thinking about your journey

This essential document explains the background to and purpose of the materials as well as how you can get the most out of the activities in the five sections. It also contains three key resources: this **Contents guide**; a **Route map** for you to fill out as you use the materials; and **What is a professional learning community? A summary**.

Familiarisation and deepening understanding

Booklet 2: Creating and sustaining an effective professional learning community

Think piece

Booklet 3: Setting professional learning communities in an international context

Think piece

Booklet 4: Broadening the learning community: key messages

Think pieces

Booklet 5: Exploring the idea of professional learning communities

Sorting and matching activity

The think pieces (readings with reflective questions) and sorting and matching activity are designed to help you:

- understand and recognise what a professional learning community (PLC) is, its characteristics, processes and impact
- find out international perspectives on PLC issues
- relate PLCs to agendas of promoting wider networking and community partnerships
- consider whether you want your school to become a PLC



Audit

Booklet 6: Investigating the culture of your professional learning community

Signs, symbols and metaphors activity

Booklet 7: Comparing your preferred future and reality

Gap analysis survey

Booklet 8: Deciding where you are as a professional learning community

Implementation rubric

These materials are designed to help you find out where you are, by assessing the extent to which PLC characteristics and processes exist in your school. We have included several different formats.



Planning

Booklet 9: Planning your professional learning community *Mapping plan and chart*

The intention of this two-part activity is to help you plan where you want to go, as well as helping you identify and deal with things that get in the way of developing professional learning communities.



Action

Booklet 10: Developing your professional learning community *Examples, tools and questions*

- leading and managing the PLC
- making the best use of space
- enhancing professional learning and reflective enquiry
- promoting inclusive membership
- extending your learning community through networks and partnerships

The purpose of these activities is to help you lead and manage the development of your PLC. They include examples from schools and activities focusing on different processes of developing PLCs, stories of change from schools at three broad stages of PLC development, and questions and development tools.

Booklet 11: Bringing about change: starting out, developing and sustaining *Stories of change and questions*



Monitoring and evaluation

Booklet 12: Reflecting on the progress of your professional learning community *Reflective timeline and stage chart*

These activities are intended to help you review your actions and assess the impact of your efforts.

Booklet 13: Assessing the impact of your professional learning community *Evaluation grid*



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Explanation of the signs used in the materials:



This activity is about familiarisation and deepening understanding of PLCs.



This activity is for auditing PLCs.



This activity helps with planning PLCs.



This activity focuses on developing PLCs.



This activity focuses on monitoring and evaluation of PLCs.



This icon highlights questions for reflection and dialogue.



This icon introduces an activity.



This icon introduces brief examples from schools.



This icon showcases a school's story.



This icon invites you to write or draw a response.