

## What is ICLS?

The *Intercultural Communication and Leadership School* was set up in 2004 and aims to help build a new generation of leaders for Leicester and the surrounding area.

*ICLS* targets a rarely considered group of young adults aged between 18 and 30 years and invites them to a 4½ day residential training programme to develop skills in leadership and intercultural communication.

Individuals apply and attend on the basis of merit, rather than as representatives of the institutions they work for or belong to. The overall makeup of each course is designed effectively to reflect the richly diverse communities that form our city and wider county.

## Who is it for?

The *Intercultural Communication and Leadership School* is aimed at anyone who aspires to be, or is currently, a leader. This includes leadership in the sense of having a formal position of authority at work or in a community organisation, or it could be leadership in the less formal sense such as group facilitation, advocacy, or creative ideas leadership.

*ICLS* enables young adults to develop and practise their skills for engaging positively with difference; skills that can be used in the workplace, the community and across many diverse settings, as well as benefiting the individual personally.

## What happens at an ICLS course?

All training delivered during a Leicester *ICLS* residential course has a specific relevance to the local multi-cultural communities that local young people live and/or work in. The course facilitates diverse groups of young adults to come together, to explore and evaluate their differences and similarities, in a safe setting built on mutual trust and respect.

## Diversity Awareness

*ICLS* begins with a seminar devoted to Leicester's multicultural context. An historical overview of Leicester's changing population is followed by presentations from different community representatives giving insights into Leicester's different faith groups.

## Communication and Media

It is vital that young women and men are able to engage with the world through the media. *ICLS* trains its participants in communication techniques that use print, broadcast, and social media channels.

## Conflict Mediation

Dealing with conflict positively is of fundamental importance. It provides opportunity for development within organisations, across communities and within individuals themselves. *ICLS* guides its participants through a comprehensive understanding of conflict mediation and transformation.

## Leadership

*ICLS* recognises that leadership comes in many different forms and aims to help participants recognise and fulfil their potential. Through a theoretical grounding in leadership, the training allows participants to develop important transferable skills in leadership practice.

## Core principles

*ICLS* is based upon 7 core principles:

### Honesty and Openness

We are interested in honesty, peace and cooperation with one other.

### Mutual Respect

We show and practice mutual respect for each other's personal beliefs and opinions. We are working to "create civilized frameworks to disagree".

### Personal Participation

Participants attend through their own merit rather than as representatives of their organisations.

### Wisdom in Teaching

All expert contributors bring to the teaching programme their unique experiences and expertise which is rooted in their own individual and cultural backgrounds.

### Decisions and Action

*ICLS* is committed to ensuring a balance of genders in all its activities, and strives to operate in a friendly manner with all its associates.

### Proportionate Financing

Everyone pays a fair contribution to the cost of the course, and no one should be excluded on grounds of cost.

### Network of Trust

As a result of participating in *ICLS*, alumni are networked through the relationships they build during the residential course. This is called The Network of Trust: a continuation of the values of *ICLS* between participants after the residential is over.

## What have participants gained from The ICLS?

*"The ICLS is really producing groundbreaking achievements [...] simply by fostering a loving environment and relationships between people. The focus on achievements of peace and caring dialogue transcended all difference."*

**male participant, 2004**

*"We came together as strangers with individual objectives; we leave as friends who share a common goal. I look to the future with hope..."*

**female participant, 2004**

*"ICLS is a process whereby contradictions can be ironed out, through simple, decent dialogue. It is a powerful process."*

**male participant, 2004**

*"ICLS is a catalyst for new relationships which bridge the divides caused by ignorance. It is a chance for meaningful interaction."*

**female participant, 2007**

*"The stimulation of new learning provided the perfect break at a highly stressful time for me. The personal atmosphere created allows everyone to engage with every part of the ICLS experience; Much more valuable than any employer's regular diversity training."*

**male participant, 2007**

## Interested? If you would like more information about Leicester ICLS and details on how to apply, please contact:

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Leicester ICLS is part of a global network of Intercultural Communication and Leadership Schools registered in Rome, and with a secondary seat based in Islamabad. You can find out more about the ICLS network of trust across Europe and Asia at [www.intercivilization.net](http://www.intercivilization.net).

### Leicester ICLS is supported by and works in partnership with the following organisations:



Leicester City Council



Leicestershire Constabulary



The Islamic Foundation



DMU Chaplaincy



Leicester St Philip's Centre  
 For Study & Engagement in a Multi Faith Society



Council of Faiths



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# The Intercultural Communication and Leadership School

Leicester



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 people personal policies position powerful president  
 private process programme proportionate provide reasonably  
 regular relating relationships residential respect  
 role **school** seminars sense significant simple skills taken  
 targets **training** transcended trust various wisdom work