







INTERNATIONAL
QUALITY STANDARD

FOR

**EDUCATION
ADVISERS**

A O ASSOCIATION
of EDUCATION
E A ADVISERS

 www.aoea.co.uk
 +44 (0) 191 820 3114

 info@aoea.co.uk
 @EducateAdvice

Our vision is that every school, college and education provider has **access to high quality support**, advice and guidance, which is **independent** and focused on improving outcomes for children, schools and their communities.

In many parts of the world support for schools is still inconsistent and lacking in capacity. We have a long way to go to achieve the **vision that all schools, and therefore children, have access to high-quality support**. We believe this vision can only be achieved if the wider community collaborate to make this happen. The Association of Education Advisers is constantly striving to build collaborative partnerships to achieve this vision.

Our mission is to provide an **international quality standard**, to offer **continuous professional development** and to create a community for those who support and challenge schools, colleges, and other education providers.

We have achieved much more than we expected in the six years of full operation, with more than **600 education professionals** who have completed or are presently completing the **International Quality Standard for Education Advisers**. We have also developed a significant presence across the U.K.



International
Quality Standard for
Education Advisers

What our accreditees say...

"The AoEA is a diverse network of educational professionals who provide support and challenge. In putting together a portfolio, I was able to reflect in a systematic way about how my professional experience fits into a much broader educational framework, and also how it might be relevant to other educational leaders. The training sessions are both structured and convivial, and the viva was enjoyable."

Helen Pike, Master of Magdalen College, Oxford

"After supporting a number of different school leaders, I chose to go through the accreditation process in order to benchmark myself against a set of criteria and gain a nationally recognised endorsement of my skills and experience. As expected at this level, I found the process to be rigorous but not onerous, with written case studies, references from clients and commissioners I'd worked with and a professional discussion with senior advisers. Gaining accreditation has opened the door to a wide range of cross-phase and system-wide training plus professional dialogue opportunities."

Katy Cox, Headteacher of St Matthews Catholic Primary School, Bradford

"I found the process both accessible and helpful: it is always valuable to reflect on one's strengths and areas of weakness and I felt the process encouraged me to do both in a supportive and encouraging manner. It would be very easy to slip out of the wider world of education in retirement from the frontline of headship. The regular EduKITs – along with the excellent weekly newsletters – have enabled me to not only keep in touch with a rapidly changing picture but also to hear some first-rate speakers on a range of topical and thought-provoking subjects."

John Hind, Director of Education and Leadership, The Rank Foundation LTD.

"A rigorous and valuable process that really helped me to reflect deeply on how effective I am being as an education adviser."

Matt Blyton, Independent Education Adviser



The **Association of Education Advisers** and how it **supports** Schools and Colleges

The AoEA has been established to help ensure **quality and consistency** in the advice given by school improvement advisers working in the **education system**.

These colleagues play a critical role and are increasingly deployed to provide specialist advice in the areas of educational improvement, governance, change management, finance and people development. Significant numbers of education leaders now work for national, international and local government, individual schools, academies and colleges and other educational settings.

The need for quality and consistency of advice is a very important concern. While government departments make their own judgements about the strengths and weaknesses of individual schools, it is essential that schools and colleges are confident their self-evaluation is sound and will withstand scrutiny by regulatory bodies.

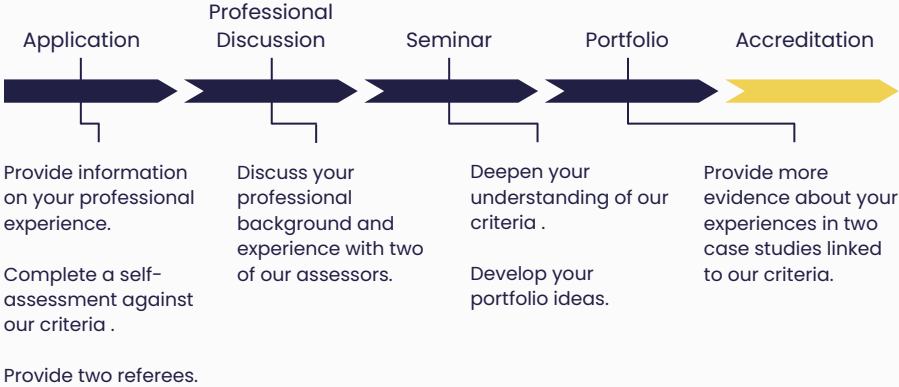
The diverse education systems across the UK and overseas comprise a wide range of education leaders with different titles, who work to a variety of guidelines and standards and adopt differing approaches to the various requirements and priorities of providers. The system requires better quality and greater consistency and reliability in the advice received.

In the past, the accreditation of education advisers has tended to concentrate on data analysis and the key aspects of school and college improvement, as identified by government. The education context has significantly changed and requires a broader focus on corporate governance, establishing and developing educational organisations and quality management systems. The AoEA has developed an accreditation process based on clearly defined competence criteria which will allow people intending to provide advice to schools and colleges to demonstrate that they meet rigorous standards.

There are two levels of accreditation – associate and senior associate. The following focusses on gaining accreditation as an associate member. An associate member would be expected to demonstrate the ability to intervene successfully in identifying and tackling school improvement causal factors, demonstrate a wide sphere of influence in a variety of organisations more widely than their own place of work. Three core areas underpin the associate assessment – advisory skills & professional credibility, school improvement skills & knowledge, and governance skills & knowledge.

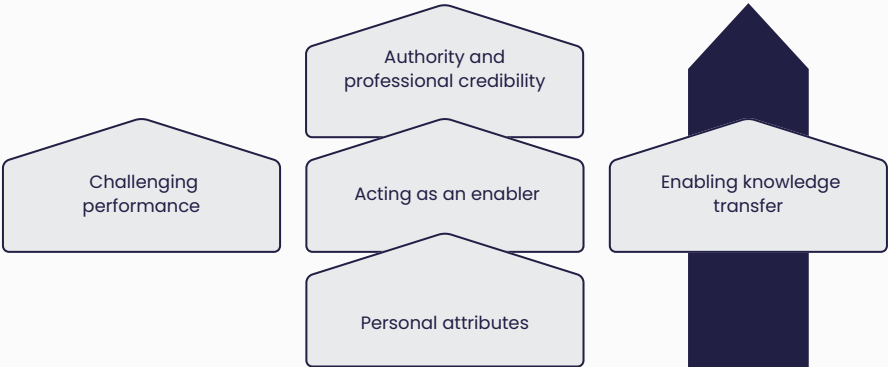
There are two levels of accreditation – Associate and Senior Associate

Associate Accreditation Process



Advisory Skills and Knowledge

Within the application phase for accreditation as an associate adviser, candidates will be required to demonstrate that they have a wide and up-to-date knowledge of educational issues, the skills required to use their knowledge and experience to support improvement and a track record of professional success.



School Improvement Skills

A high-quality education adviser must possess the understanding and skills to have a positive impact on school improvement. Fundamentally, they must understand the causal factors that contribute to a school's performance and be able to work in concert with the school's leadership to achieve change and improvement. We have identified certain key skills and attributes that we believe are essential to the role.



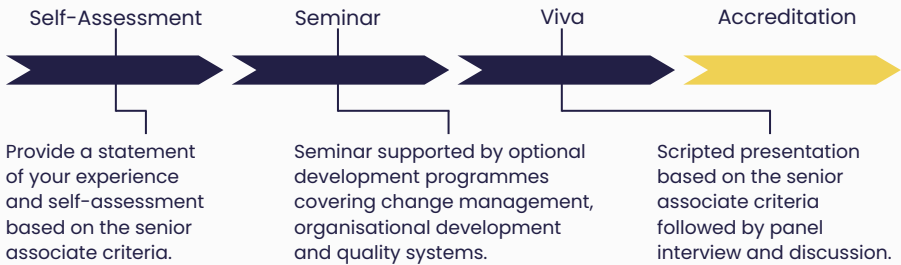
Governance Skills

An education adviser is required to have the necessary knowledge, skills and experience that allows them to effectively support and challenge the governance of an educational organisation regarding corporate oversight and impact on the development of the organisation. With the growth of self-managing institutions this aspect is of critical importance.



Senior Associate Accreditation Process

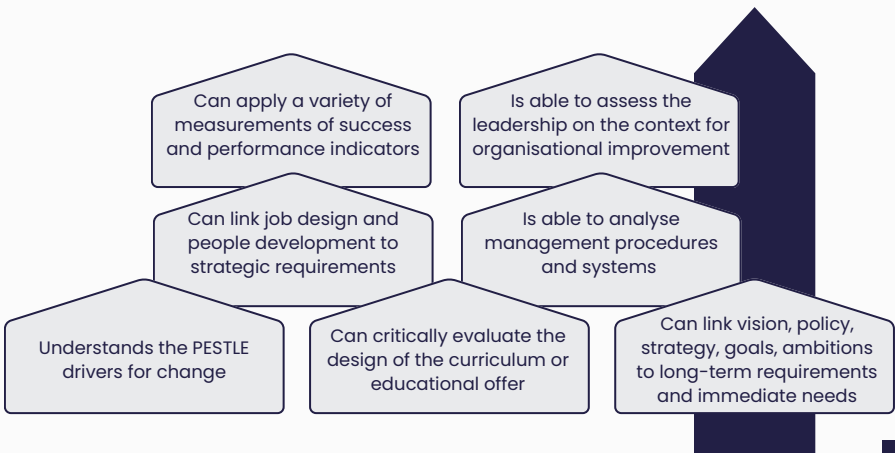
Senior accreditation is the second level of accreditation. The following focusses on gaining accreditation as a senior associate member. A senior associate requires sophisticated knowledge and skills to address system-wide and deep-rooted issues in groups of schools or organisations. This will require evidence of knowledge and expertise in the areas of change management, organisational development and quality systems.



Organisational Development

Advisers need to bring a proactive and reactive approach to organisational development.

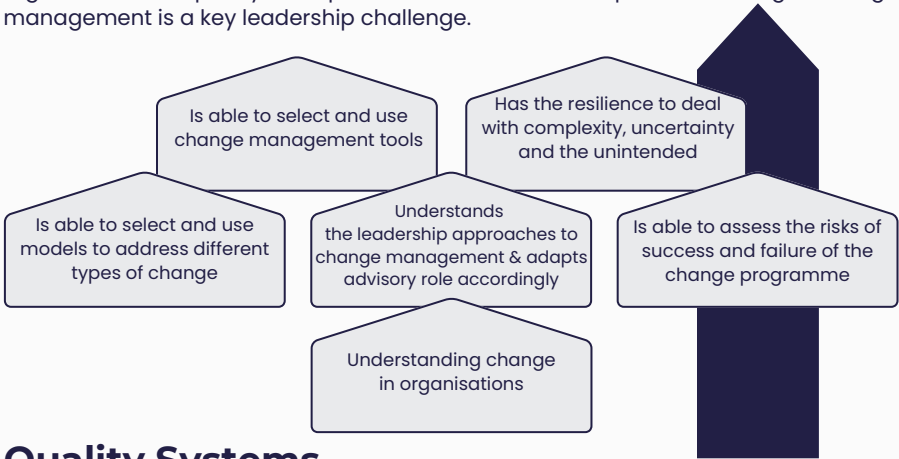
The role of the organisational development adviser is to support the individual and the organisation in understanding their need and capacity to develop within a world that is forever changing. Organisational development is a planned, systemic approach to improving organisational effectiveness - one that aligns strategy, people and processes. This examines how to achieve the desired goals of high performance and competitive advantage through the involvement of people.



Change Management

Advisers need to bring a proactive and reactive approach to organisational change.

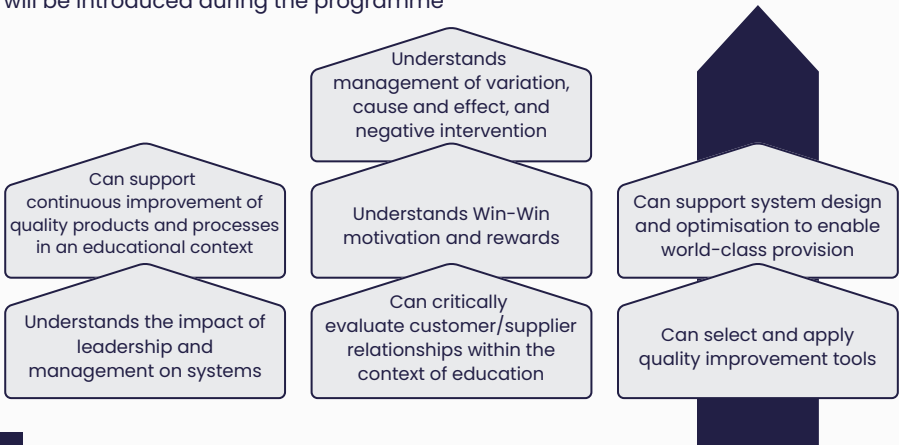
Change can be viewed as an external threat and an opportunity. An organisation may also have strengths and weaknesses regarding its capacity to respond to change. The role of the change adviser is to support the individual and the organisational capacity to cope with the drivers which promote change. Change management is a key leadership challenge.



Quality Systems

Systems leaders will need support from expert advisers in ensuring that their systems are fit for purpose, and continuously improved through carefully managed modifications, responding to continuous feedback.

This programme focuses on quality management support, as well as systems leadership development. We expect the Senior Associate to have high level skills and knowledge of how organisations are transformed. New techniques and tools will be introduced during the programme



At the Association of Education Advisers, our dedication lies in **raising the standard of education advice** across schools, colleges, and educational institutions. Beyond our esteemed Associate and Senior Associate accreditation programmes, our **commitment extends to empowering educational leaders** with the **essential tools, knowledge, and supportive community** they need to excel in their roles. Our membership programme has been meticulously crafted to ensure that each member gains access to a plethora of resources and avenues for professional advancement.

SOME OF THE BENEFITS INCLUDE:



Weekly Newsletter



Access to AoEA Hub



Educational Keeping-in-Touch Meetings (EduKITs)



Independent Learning Modules



Associate Register



Professional Learning Courses



The Role of the Adviser Book Series



Annual Summit

Want to learn more?

Follow the links below:

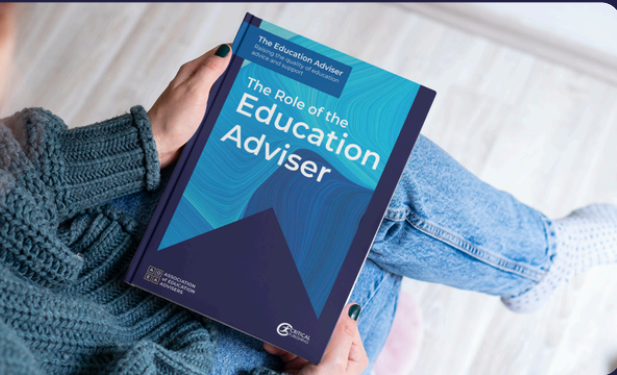
aoea.co.uk/membership



“Drawing on insights from leading educationalists with decades of experience of working with key players the book undercovers the nuances, dark arts and trade secrets associated with supporting educational change and improvement..

It is not to be bypassed!”

–Professor Chris Chapman



Discover the foundational aspects of the education adviser role in the inaugural volume of the series. This book is divided into two main parts: theoretical insights and real-world examples.

ISBN : 9781915713933

aoea.co.uk/book-series

The Education Adviser Series is a collection of six books designed to empower education professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to drive meaningful change in schools and educational institutions. This series, meticulously curated and aligned with the AoEA accreditation and professional learning programme, serves as a comprehensive guide for aspiring and practising education advisers.

List of Upcoming Books

- Advising on School Improvement
- Advising on Governance in Education
- Advising on Organisational Development in Education
- Advising on Change Management in Education
- Advising on Implementing Quality Systems in Education



National Partners



ASSOCIATION
OF COLLEGES

"We fully support the AoEA mission to raise the quality of support and advice that our schools and colleges receive. Ensuring that advisers and consultants are trained in how best to operate with colleges is an important ambition which we believe is of major importance." (David Hughes, AoC)



"Nothing matters more than the quality of teaching and learning that our young people receive. Having agreed standards underpinned by robust accreditation is so vital for all consultants and advisers who support and enable school improvement." (Pepe Di'lasio, General Secretary ASCL)

CHARTERED
COLLEGE OF
TEACHING

"Strengthening the knowledge and expertise of our profession is the best way to continuously improve standards. The accreditation of advisers will play an important role in ensuring that the decisions taken are well-informed and right for the school or college's setting" (Dame Alison Peacock, Chief Executive of the Chartered College of Teaching)



"If schools are going to procure services it would be helpful for them to know if they were good value. I'm really glad that it is happening. It seems such common sense" (Emma Knights, NGA)



"We are pleased to see the accreditation of education advisers. It is essential that schools get advice from high-quality advisers" (Sue Williamson, SSAT)

ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATION ADVISERS
INTERNATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD



RAISING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION ADVICE

For more information about our International Quality Standard for Education Advisers, please visit www.aoea.co.uk or contact our Accreditation Officer Megan Liebnitz at megan.liebnitz@aoea.co.uk

info@aoea.co.uk
0191 820 3114

aoea.co.uk
[@EducateAdvise](https://www.instagram.com/EducateAdvise)

Albany Court
Newcastle NE4 7YB