

PCRS Respiratory Leaders Programme: Could you be a respiratory leader?



Siobhan Hollier, *Team lead respiratory physiotherapist, Norfolk*

Are you passionate about respiratory care but frustrated by the pace of change? Do you have ideas about how things could be done better, but aren't sure how to make your voice heard? The Primary Care Respiratory Society (PCRS) Respiratory Leaders Programme could be the catalyst you've been looking for.

Established in 2009, the PCRS Respiratory Leadership Programme has been through several iterations since the COVID-19 pandemic. For 2026 we are offering a three-year rolling programme of biannual residential workshops which delegates can join at any point or participate in stand-alone sessions where there is a particular learning need or interest.

What makes the PCRS leadership programme different to other leadership workshops?

There are other learning opportunities available to clinicians to enhance their leadership knowledge and skills but, for clinicians with a passion for high quality respiratory care, PCRS Respiratory Leadership Programme offers a unique opportunity to develop professional leadership skills within the respiratory context.

What will I learn?

Each residential workshop combines an expert-led session, peer discussion and practical tools you can apply immediately. Workshops will focus on core themes of leadership such as:

- influencing and negotiating;
- understanding teams; and
- project initiation

and will provide delegates with useful tools and resources that can be implemented in their practice setting and beyond. As we move into 2026 we will see the architecture of the NHS continuing to change. More than ever there will be a requirement for respiratory leaders to understand the needs of their local population and key stakeholders to position themselves to influence and drive positive change and innovation in respiratory care.

The PCRS Respiratory Leadership Programme:

- ▶ **Network** with like-minded colleagues building connections that extend well beyond the workshop.
- ▶ **Apply** leadership theory to real-world respiratory scenarios making it immediately relevant and transferable.
- ▶ **Reframe, redirect and problem-solve** in a safe non-judgemental space sharing challenges, ideas and solutions with informed peers.
- ▶ **Stay current** on hot topics, policy and campaigns, equipping you to advocate and drive change with confidence.

The programme is led by Catherine Blackaby, an experienced leadership consultant, and established respiratory leaders who support the Programme as facilitators or by delivering content related to areas of expertise.



Catherine Blackaby – Biography

Catherine has over 25 years' experience of working in the NHS in primary and community care and brings a wealth of real-life experience and practical tools to her work. She is an experienced coach, facilitator and trainer and is an engaging presenter and improvement leader, who focuses on building people's confidence and capability with knowledge and skills they can put into use immediately.

Catherine is a former improvement fellow with the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement, where she undertook improvement skills training with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in the USA. Besides holding a Masters Business Administration (MBA), she is an Advanced Practitioner in Managing Successful Programmes, an MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicator) practitioner, NLP master practitioner and accredited executive coach, and has a particular interest in the human and cultural aspects of change. She also worked as a development adviser on the national "Time for Care" General Practice Development Programme, which supported practice teams and primary care networks (PCNs) to deliver practical change, release capacity and develop the skills to lead local improvement.

Who is it for?

Anyone can be a leader, and you do not necessarily need to hold a position of power to influence, inspire and empower others around you. This programme is for:

- ▶ **The aspiring leader:** You have drive and ambition. You want to understand yourself and others, communicate with impact and start making a real difference.
- ▶ **The established leader:** You want to sharpen your toolkit, refresh your thinking, expand your network and stay ahead of the curve.



The PCRS leadership programme has a proven track record of developing confident inspiring leaders; many of the current leaders within PCRS are 'graduates' of the respiratory leadership programme.

“ This was an exceptionally useful session, all parts were completely relevant and useful skills for my job, and it was excellently presented. Such a welcoming and supportive environment. ”

“ Excellent, very informative and worthwhile course. Feel more confident to put skills/knowledge gained from course into practice. Thank you. ”

The next generation of respiratory leaders are already out there – could it be you?



If you are interested come and join us for our next workshop:

Delivering Value, Demonstrating Outcomes

Friday 26th and Saturday 27th June 2026 • Wychwood Conference Centre

For more information: <https://www.pcrs-uk.org/respiratory-leadership-programme>