



Senior Executive Leadership Programme

Benchmarked to Level 7 (CMI)

About the *Programme*

Senior leaders today need to move fast and think clearly, often while the ground underneath their organisation is shifting.

Arden University's Senior Executive Leadership Programme is built for that reality: an accelerated pathway for senior executives, directors, and strategic leaders making the shift from technical or operational expertise into genuine strategic leadership.

The curriculum is focused on one core problem: closing the gap between doing the job and running the business. Delivered through intensive executive masterclasses, it's flexible by design, shaped around the real operational pressures and commercial demands each learner and organisation is facing.

Aligned to key content from the Senior Leader occupational standard, the programme gives experienced managers the strategic thinking, digital awareness, and judgement they need to drive innovation, handle disruption, and show ROI quickly. On completion, subject to eligibility and experience requirements, learners have an embedded route to Chartered Fellow (FCmgr) — the profession's highest accolade — or Chartered Member (CMgr) status, backing their credibility for the long term.

Programme *Structure*

The programme content is delivered within 3 key pillars, developing confident, reflective, and systems-thinking executives ready to spearhead systemic organisational transformation

Alongside the three learning pillars, learners will attend executive masterclasses, complete a strategic impact project and complete a reflective professional discussion that supports progression to Chartered recognition (subject to eligibility).

1**PILLAR**

Strategic Vision & Direction

Covers horizon scanning, corporate governance, organisational maturity, and advanced market positioning within complex global and digital environments

2**PILLAR**

High-Performance Leadership

Explores the executive transformation required to align organisational culture, optimise enterprise performance, value diverse talent pipelines, and lead high-stakes strategic change

3**PILLAR**

Strategic Practice & Impact

Facilitates the execution of a real-world, high-stakes strategic business project, utilising rigorous financial data analysis, risk management, and delivery frameworks to address a critical organisational challenge

Key *Facts*

Cost:

£1,950

Embedded Professional Grade:

Chartered Fellow (MCMI) or Chartered Member (FCMI)*

Duration:

A flexible delivery timeline up to Twelve months, with continuous access to the CMI Thrive digital ecosystem.

Delivery:

Our blended delivery model consists of:

- Flexible, self-guided online learning journeys curated to complement core themes.
- High-impact masterclasses designed to build immediate workplace capability.
- Structured digital tools, including an exclusive Diagnostic Tool completed at the beginning, middle, and end of the programme to validate skill progression.
- Contextualised template resources, including interactive Worksheets, Checklists, and Action Scripts.

*Subject to eligibility and experience requirements

Entry Requirements

Learners enrolling on this programme must meet the following criteria:

- Be a senior leader, executive, director or experienced manager with responsibility for a function, department or significant operational area.
- Have a commitment to developing inclusive, conscious leadership behaviours
- Possess standard proficiency in the English language to actively engage in professional discussions and reflective writing
- To qualify for the premier Chartered Fellow route (SELP-F), learners must be able to evidence at least 10 years of management experience by the end of the course, with at least 3 of those years operating at a strategic level (validated via an up-to-date CV or experience log).
- Note: Learners with 3+ years of management experience who do not meet the full 10-year strategic threshold will be registered on the Chartered Member route

Prospective learners will be streamed onto the most relevant course for them, and if someone does not meet the criteria for full Chartered or Fellow status, they will be reviewed for eligibility against the next available status.

Progression Pathways

Upon completion of the programme, individuals progress to the final assessment phase of the programme. This confirms their eligibility for Chartered Fellow or Chartered Member status, accelerating their professional influence and establishing a certified baseline for elite executive roles, board appointments, and global enterprise leadership.

Programme

Pillar Overview

Strategic Vision & Direction

MASTERCLASS 1

This module focuses on critically appraising the internal and external pressures, legal boundaries, and technological advancements that shape enterprise-wide strategy.

- **Organisational Governance & Structure:** Understanding how organisational structures, governance arrangements and regulatory requirements influence decision-making, accountability and business performance.
- **Purpose, Ethics & Sustainability:** Exploring how organisational purpose, ethics, social responsibility and sustainability shape strategy, culture and long-term success.
- **Strategic Planning & Direction:** Evaluating different strategic approaches to support growth, improve performance, strengthen market position and achieve organisational objectives.
- **Digital Trends & Market Positioning:** Analysing external market conditions, customer expectations and emerging technologies to identify opportunities, manage risks and strengthen organisational competitiveness.

Programme

Pillar Overview

High-Performance Leadership

MASTERCLASS 2

Executives critically reflect on the vital interplay between leadership mindsets and skillsets required to foster peak performance while building equity and psychological safety across divisions.

- **Leadership & Culture:** Exploring the shift from technical expertise to strategic leadership, including how leaders shape culture, align teams around shared values, and drive high performance.
- **Building Future Capability:** Looking at workforce planning, succession planning, and skills development to ensure organisations have the talent and capability needed for future success.
- **Strategic Thinking & Leadership Effectiveness:** Developing systems thinking, emotional intelligence, sound judgement, financial awareness, and the confidence to lead in complex and changing environments.
- **Leading Strategic Change:** Evaluating established change management approaches, such as Kotter's 8-Step Model, ADKAR and McKinsey 7-S, to plan, communicate and lead successful organisational change.

Programme

Pillar Overview

The Strategic Impact Project

MASTERCLASS 3

This executive module centers on the creation, execution, and defense of a live, data-backed strategic initiative engineered to solve a high-stakes challenge and unlock massive organisational value.

- **Business Case Development:** Building compelling business cases that assess strategic options, investment priorities, affordability and the potential for long-term organisational value.
- **Strategic Decision-Making:** Using financial, operational and organisational information to evaluate priorities, allocate resources effectively and support informed strategic decisions.
- **Risk Management & Governance:** Applying risk management approaches to identify potential threats, assess their impact and support effective organisational decision-making.
- **Project Delivery & Performance:** Selecting appropriate delivery approaches, governance arrangements and monitoring tools to support successful implementation and measurable outcomes.

Programme

Pillar Overview

MASTERCLASS 1

Final assessment & Professional Verification

To complete the programme and secure embedded Chartered Fellow or Chartered Member status, learners do not sit formal exam papers. Instead, Arden University utilises an agile, evidence-based verification process to confirm eligibility, experience requirements and professional competence:

1. Reflective Practice (CPD Log)

- Learners maintain a comprehensive Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Log throughout the programme.
- This documents critical reflections on personal growth, leadership behaviours, and planned next steps for ongoing career development.

2. Application of Learning (Professional Discussion)

- Competence is validated through a structured Professional Discussion at the end of the programme.
- Leaders present the outcomes, data synthesis, and risk mitigations of their Strategic Impact Project to prove how they applied advanced leadership theories to secure a measurable, real-world ROI for their business



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For enquiries:

degreeapprenticeships@arden.ac.uk

T: 02476 515700

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