



# GO LEAD CONFERENCE

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# INSPIRE STORY

## THEME-FEMALE VOLUNTEERS

The development of female students as leaders at Key Stage 3 and their impact on increasing provision for their peers in secondary schools through extracurricular activities and the development of female students as future referees or coaches at Key Stage 4.

## BACKGROUND CONTEXT

Back in 2024 a group of students took part in the “Go Lead” conference. This helped them learn all about running their own club, growing it and sharing the importance of equal access to football in schools. Since then they have inspired other girls to take part in other leadership opportunities such as sports leaders.

## WHO WERE THE KEY PLAYERS?

Inspire Together organised a Go Lead conference lead by YST tutors and Inspire mentors. The conference was also supported by Barclays and the FA. This was a great introduction to leadership and equal opportunities in football and inspired the girls to go back to school and deliver their action plan. Mr Tratt (school sports coach) has been supporting the girls to deliver their action plan as well as encouraging girls to join up and set up sports leaders after the event to allow girls to achieve a qualification while developing leadership skills.

## WHAT WERE THE KEY ACTIONS?

After the conference, football club was run by Go Lead leaders who planned and ran the sessions encouraging several girls to come. A sports leaders programme was started encouraging girls to have more leadership opportunities. Opportunities to volunteer at events during school and with external clubs have been created (for example, 3 girls assisted with a hockey camp in the summer and the sports leaders ran a KS1 event in their holidays).





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## WHAT IMPACTS HAVE YOU AND THE GIRLS SEEN?

Since the Go Lead conference, more girls have gained interest in football and leadership in the school as a whole. It has really strengthened the girls football at the school and encouraged girls to step into leadership, whether it be around football or more general sports leadership. This has all stemmed from the leaders who completed Go Lead being role models to the rest of the girls.

## HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY CHALLENGES? HOW HAVE YOU OVERCOME THEM?

The challenge has been starting off and getting girls to join activities they have put on. The girls have learned how to overcome these barriers by talking about what they are delivering and why in assemblies. They have also found it tricky during exam season. But have helped the next generation of leaders, in the younger year groups, learn what needs to be done so they can deliver independently when exam season starts.

## WHAT ARE YOUR/THEIR NEXT STEPS AND PLANS TO CONTINUE?

The next steps are to offer the next level up for both my sports leaders and Go Lead leaders to allow the girls to gain a level 2 qualification and help out more. We also want to bring the next group of Go Lead leaders through the program, to pick up from the current group of leaders as they prepare for exam season.

