

Purposes and Systematic Reviews and meta-analyses – for a given question

- Researchers use:
 - **meta-analyses** to create rigorous systematic overview of quantitative evidence
 - **systematic reviews** and **best evidence syntheses (BES)** to create rigorous, systematic overview of the best qualitative and quantitative evidence & empirical theory
 - **high quality studies** to create an in-depth view of evidence for a given, less and or more representative context





Meta analysis
quantitative
overview

Systematic reviews / BES –
Research/ theory overview



Good Studies – rigorous anatomy
of given issue



Users and kinds of evidence

- To **use evidence to inform practice and enhance pupil learning**
 - **teachers have to** combine local evidence with evidence from research to make informed professional judgements for their pupils and context.
 - **school leaders** have to combine local evidence with evidence from research to make informed professional judgements about school improvement, planning, CPDL, the curriculum and pedagogy and the systems that underpin them
 - **policy makers have to** combine evidence from research with data about the system starting points and their values/policies/ manifesto





SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ACTION PLANNING FOR EQUITY AND LEARNING

Planning about mandatory qualifications as a policy lever to raise the overall quality of school leaders?

dealing with complexity
working with school leaders

if yes *low demanding qualification program?*

Very demanding? *high quality of school staff? in positions requiring leadership?*

Who should have such a qualification? *All serving school heads at just the newly appointed?*

What about the providers of the qualification programs? *Leaders in various fields are essential and traditional for training purposes*

What pedagogic methods can be implemented given the scope and targets of the policy? *All serving school heads at just the newly appointed?*

What about the costs of the qualification program? *Costs are essential for the program to be successful*

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Things to remember

- If you light a candle you cast a shadow:
 - Everyone's contributions are shaped by realities eg
 - Time, timescales, resources and logistics of school life
 - The need to persuade, inform or regulate others' behaviour.
- Systematic reviews, meta analyses and BES make it easy and efficient to take an over view
- But individual studies are needed to integrate local and wider scale evidence
- Effect sizes are a metaphor – the dials and sat nav on our dashboards – we still have to drive!
 - Systematic reviews, meta analyses and BES all need to be understood – and critiqued/ developed in that context
 - But without them we drive by the seat of our pants!

