

Leadership Situations

Leadership Situation 1

Mr Knight is a consultant surgeon at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. On Thursday 16th January, Mr Knight and his team were performing a kidney transplant operation on Sally Taylor (a 37 year old mother from Halifax).

Suddenly, Sally goes into coronary arrest – her heart stops beating! Quick decisions need to save Sally's life. There are lots of experienced and qualified medical staff at hand.

What should they do?

- Be laid back – what will be will be. They are all professionals so the “job” will get done.
- Discuss what the options open for saving Sally's life are. If the wrong option is chosen she could die.
- Mr Knight should tell the team what to do, if anything goes wrong he will be responsible.

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Leadership Situation 2

Max Fielding is an Advertising Executive for BBH, an extremely successful London advertising agency, whose clients include KFC, Warburtons, Levis and Vodafone.

Max has to put a pitch together for the new Lynx Bodyspray advertising campaign. It needs to be exciting and fresh and appeal to the target market – young men!

What should he do?

- Give the brief to his team and let them get on with it – they are creative people so should easily come up with great new ideas.
- Get his team together, discuss the brief and agree some general ideas to take forward.
- Tell his team about the fab idea he had that night and get them to draw up the advert.

Leadership Situation 3

From September 2016, the Business Studies Department will run a new IGCSE qualification in Travel and Tourism. This is a brand new course and none of the Business teachers have ever taught this syllabus before.

Mr Smith is an experienced manager and he has to decide how to lead his team through the introduction of this new course.

What should he do?

- Leave his team to do what they do best – teach! All the teachers have their own styles and strengths, so Mr Smith needs to trust in their professionalism to deliver a good course.
- Consult with the Business Studies teachers – get ideas for how to deliver the new course – and agree an overall structure with the flexibility to allow the teachers to develop their own ideas to.
- Create the lesson plans and materials needed to deliver the course and tell the Business teachers what to do for each lesson. That way Mr Smith will know that all students will be taught exactly the same material.

Leadership Situation 4

Everton are currently 11th in the Barclays Premiership on Wednesday they are playing Tottenham at home at Goodison Park. Tottenham are 6th in the table and are a tough team to play with their star player, Harry Kane.

Roberto Martinez, the quiet but industrious Manager has some choices to make, stick with the tried and tested 4/5/1 formation, go for the 4/4/2 or try a Diamond Attack of 4/3/3.

What should he do?

- Let the team decide – they're the ones playing, so it is up to them to win.
- Consult with the team, discuss the options – they may feel confident that a change would work.
- Tell the team they are sticking to the 4/5/1 formation, as it is no time to be making creative changes – there is too much at stake!