

# SSAT Masterclass: Astronaut Leadership

With six times Astronaut Dr. Mike Foale and Chris Barber (ISSET)

Astronauts work at the cutting edge of human exploration and experience where technology and science are test to the limits. As such they have a unique perspective on the world and what it takes to lead in a high performing organisation.

Dr. Mike Foale will share experiences, learning and leadership lessons that can be applied personally and harness the potential within schools.

Date: Tuesday 22 January 2019

Venue: Birmingham

## Agenda

09.00	<b>Arrival, registration, refreshments &amp; networking</b>
09.30 – 09.45	<b>Welcome, introduction and aims for the day</b> Dan Belcher, SSAT
09.45 – 11.00	<b>Great leadership attributes and behaviours</b> Dr Michael Foale (former NASA astronaut) and Chris Barber (ISSET)
11.00 – 11.15	<b>Break</b>
11.15 – 12.30	<b>Leadership, followership and building high performing teams</b> Dr Michael Foale (former NASA astronaut) and Chris Barber (ISSET)
12.30	<b>Lunch</b>
13.30	<b>Learning from experience, decision making and sustaining performance</b> Dr Michael Foale (former NASA astronaut) and Chris Barber (ISSET)
15.00	<b>Reflections and next steps</b> (Including opportunity for photographs)
15.30	<b>Evaluations and close</b>

## **Biography: Dr.Mike Foale**

Michael Foale was born in rural Lincolnshire and was the first British born NASA Astronaut. He has flown in space on six NASA missions. His experience includes; being Commander of the International Space Station (ISS), bringing the Hubble Space Telescope back to life and having played the major role in saving the Russian 'Mir' Space Station as it tumbled out of control around the Earth, following the only collision in outer-space.

He is a Queens College, Cambridge PhD and has been awarded the CBE. Michael held a range of senior roles in NASA that include having been the Deputy Administrator at NASA Headquarters, Chief of the Astronaut Expedition Corps and Assistant Director of the Johnson Space Centre.

Michael can relate his experiences of being a leader in NASA - the world's most highly rated Federal employer. This includes huge scale contract management, working and liaising with organisations and individuals from different cultures (especially the Russians), recognising and developing talent, sustaining performance, implementing change, ensuring the continuous need for quality and turning around poor performance.

He has significant understanding of risk management, particularly in confronting the most hostile environment encountered by humanity and preparing teams for operations that involve high stress and pressure.

When Michael returned from Russia and the Mir Mission he was promoted to be Assistant Director of Johnson Space Centre with the specific task of developing a method of enabling NASA military astronauts and Russian military cosmonauts to be able to overcome their cold war bias and work together in effect team. He developed an outdoor leadership that focussed as much on followership as leadership. This methodology is now the accepted NASA practice for developing leadership and team building.

## **Biography: Chris Barber (ISSET)**

### **International Space School Educational Trust**

Chris Barber's experience includes being in finance with a major oil company, working in the City and being an educational leader taking a below average school to be England and Wales top A-Level school. He is the founder of the International Space School Educational Trust (ISSET), Mission Discovery, Message to the Moon, Cosmonaut Training and Leadership Programme, Houston Oil and Gas Post-Grad programme and the Astronaut Leadership Experience. The latter programme has taken place in the Lake District, the Arctic, the Gobi Desert and India. He has led ISSET to develop the world record number of science experiments to be carried out by astronauts aboard the International Space Station. He has been an organisational leadership and educational consultant having enhanced the process of change and improvement in a range of organisations in the UK, USA, India and Australia. Chris has a BSc and Master's degree in mathematics.