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CONNECTING – Leading in a Contemporary World and how it has shaped my life or career

1. **How do you influence others, including current leaders, to support your leadership development?**
– **Influencing others to support your leadership development requires a strategic approach that demonstrates values while building genuine relationships**

Key strategies:

- Demonstrate Value First
- Build Genuine Relationships
- Networking
- Seek Mentorship Strategically
- Volunteer for High-Visibility/High Profile Projects
- Communicate Your Aspirations Clearly
- Become a Bridge-Builder

The key is consistency - repeatedly demonstrating leadership qualities in your daily interactions while actively seeking feedback and growth opportunities. When leaders see you as someone who makes their job easier and drives positive outcomes, supporting your development becomes a natural investment in organizational success.

2. **What leadership capacity will you need to thrive as a future leader? - To thrive as a future leader, you'll need to develop several key capacities that are becoming increasingly critical in our evolving workplace:**

- Adaptive Thinking
- Emotional Intelligence and Empathy
- System Thinking
- Digital Fluency
- Cultural Competence
- Coaching and Development Mindset
- Resilience and Self-Care
- Strategic Communication

The leaders who thrive will be those who view these capacities as ongoing development areas rather than fixed skills, continuously growing and adapting as the leadership landscape evolves.

3. **Why will EQ and agility be important in leading diversity in all its forms in a decentralised, e-connected world? - EQ and agility are becoming essential leadership capacities because they directly address the core challenges of managing human complexity in our interconnected, distributed world.**

- **Navigating Cultural and Communication Nuances**
- Creating an inclusive culture
- **Building Trust Across Distance**
- **Managing Multiple Forms of Diversity Simultaneously**
- **Responding to Rapid Change and Crisis**
- **Creating Inclusive Virtual Experiences**
- **Leveraging Diverse Perspectives for Innovation**
- **Reducing unconscious bias**

- **Improving mindfulness**

Without these capacities, leaders in decentralised, diverse environments often default to one-size-fits-all approaches that inadvertently exclude or demotivate team members, missing the tremendous potential that diversity offers while creating friction that undermines team effectiveness.

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