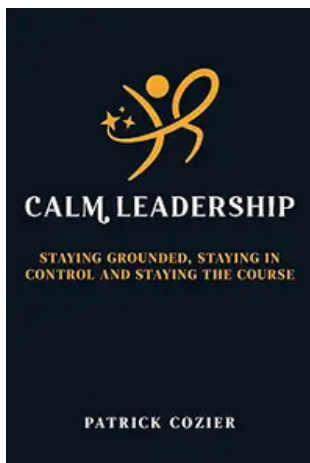




Praise for Calm Leadership

Patrick's book, like the man himself, is more than just calm. It is wise, compassionate, sensible and revolutionary. Patrick is a rare voice in the world of education, and the communities he serves benefit everyday from his compassionate and aspirational leadership. We are at a critical moment in time: enormous change, multiple crises and the appeal of leadership is declining. Patrick's timely book is a call to arms for leading in a more human and sustainable way – never have we needed his voice more than now.

Keziah Featherstone, Headteachers' Roundtable, WomenEd, Executive Trust Leader

Patrick Cozier's *Calm Leadership* is a timely and essential contribution to the literature on school leadership from one of the few Black head teachers of African-Caribbean heritage in the country. From his honest admission that he edited himself to avoid certain stereotypes about Black people to his ability to maintain a healthy perspective on things after his mother's passing, Cozier provides a genuine, humane and inspirational take on running a school. A mix of autobiography and hard-won professional learning, *Calm Leadership* is a heart-warming, practical book which will help any leader to train themselves to think calmly and avoid the tendency to 'awfulise everything in leadership'. One of the few books I recommend all school leaders should read.

John Tomsett, writer, speaker and erstwhile head teacher

Calm Leadership is exactly what the education sector needs right now. In his warm, practical voice Patrick Cozier shows that it is possible to have a longstanding, high-profile career and remain grounded and positive. In giving advice to his younger self, Patrick provides a roadmap and commentary on how to find the balance between being robust and kind, between having hard conversations and being compassionate. At its heart, Patrick reminds us that leadership is primarily about people; that we have the capacity to remain focused and optimistic even under pressure and that it's possible to create a calm, caring environment where all can thrive. Great advice for all leaders in education.

Mary Myatt, education writer and speaker

This leadership book hits differently. It's not filled with verbose strategy, political opinion or random soundbites; the pages contain leadership lessons that are relevant to leaders at any stage in their careers. My highlighter has never worked so hard – marking paragraphs of Patrick's sage advice as I reflected on my own leadership. This is one book I will be advising any leader that I coach to add to the top of their reading list.

Amanda Wilson, head teacher, coach, author and publisher of *Letters to a Young Generation: Aspiring School Leaders*

Offering a novel approach to taking up the reins, *Calm Leadership* is both an inspiring reflection on overcoming the challenges of leadership and a practical guide to harnessing the power of emotional intelligence in the workplace. Drawing on 20 years of successful leadership experience, Patrick shares not just his own authentic insights but also a deeply human journey to which we all can relate. *Calm Leadership* grapples with issues from imposter syndrome to budget deficits, and shines a light on a better way forward for our future leaders: leading not with an iron fist but with empathy, purpose and perspective. These are qualities that, Patrick argues, are far better suited to the complexities of modern working life than the hardline approaches of old. Against a backdrop of high head-teacher turnover and stubbornly poor ethnic representation in senior roles, *Calm Leadership* offers an antidote to the self-doubt and insecurity that plague too many of us. It provides a breath of fresh air that our schools – and our society – have desperately needed.

Rt Hon. David Lammy, MP for Tottenham, Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice