

Management in Education Journal Opinion Piece Guidelines

What a good opinion piece looks like:

A good opinion piece should centre on an educational issue in management and leadership to which many practitioners can relate, and which has a strong contemporary resonance. A good piece opens with a strong and thought-provoking stance which evokes some emotion or element of curiosity and really emphasises this in the first couple of paragraphs. The writer should use an active and conversational voice to get the reader hooked early on and continue reading. The piece should aim to evoke a 'moment of truth' for the reader, exciting them about the topic/issue and allowing them to see how it links to their own practice/experience.

Reaction it should provoke in the reader:

Call to action, excitement, passion to improve practice, reflection on one's teaching and/or leadership in their own context, and the desire to read more on the subject.

Prospective Word Count:

3000 words (including references)

What counts as a good piece:

A good piece is timely; exploring an issue which has current significance in education. It is written in a style which is both accessible and engaging to the reader. Submissions may be from practitioners or academics working within a national or an international context, but broader implications should be stressed whichever is the case.

Paragraphs should be self-contained and not overly long. If using data, the writer needs to be mindful to weave this data into their narrative, and not lose the reader through over-scientific jargon or convoluted language. The piece should have a natural flow, and arguments should clearly build upon each other to reach a compelling and clear conclusion. Ideally, readers will find an opinion piece interesting as well as being able to recognise how it might relate to them on a practical level.

All submissions should be sent to: mieeditors@belmas.org.uk