Qualities to be a business leader:

1) Creativity – remember it was your idea that got you to this point. You must have had a creative idea in the first place – build on that and think of a creative and catchy name for your business

2) Imagination – be ready to dream and think of different ways to do what others are doing only better.

3) Determination – it's not all fun running a business. If you are a parent or carer and you are not used to putting yourself first, prepare for the guilt factor. Be ready to be a bit selfish …

4) Self belief – you had better believe in yourself if you want other people to!

5) Self reliance – sure you will have to employ people eventually to expand your business. But if you can possibly acquire or learn a skill which saves you money and taking someone on – do it – even if it slows the actual roll out of your business down, while you learn. You will have the skills and you will own them.

6) Good communication skills - talking to people – network at every opportunity. You never know who can help you and who you can sell to unless you talk to people

7) Sheer cheek – asking for breaks, assistance, steps up, contacts, free samples, swaps. If you don’t ask you don’t get.

 8) Kindness. This might seem like a wishy washy thing to some people but doing people a favour and being as open truthful and kind as you can will bring you rewards in business, believe me.

9) Resilience. It’s OK to make mistakes and fail. Pick yourself up dust yourself off and start all over again. BUT NEVER MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.

10) Self discipline. You are going to need to work long hours alongside your existing life to make this work. You will need to be organized and keep good records. Even buying a spike to put your receipts on is a good start