



Every individual is in a great school!

Summer 2 | Newsletter 2023

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Become a school governor



Compassionate ● Accomplished ● Resilient

Mission: To celebrate the diverse nature, culture and identity of our individual schools, whilst enjoying the benefit of the team, so that each school is reciprocal in their support for one another and achieves together.

I am immensely proud of our Trust community and everything that we are achieving together. The list of successful developments this year is remarkable and goes way beyond the following examples. I think it is worth taking a moment to think about the successes of the year and how far we have travelled as a family of schools. For example:

- *Trust wide conference at Theatre Severn in September.
- *Second Trust conference planned for 27th October for all staff.
- *Governor conference at Albrighton Hussey in February.
- *Conversion of Much Wenlock Primary School.
- *Integration of Bridgnorth Endowed and Hodnet Primary into Trust systems
- *IT Security and SharePoint migration in all Trust schools.
- *New Trust Quality assurance process in place.
- *Bowbrook Primary School opening in September.
- *Talent Pool established helping drive School Improvement.
- *St Martins moving to Good in Ofsted.
- *Excellent financial management of schools.
- *MAT development group well established.
- *Executive Team and headteachers working as one.
- *HR recruitment event and Aspire Leadership programme established.
- *New HR systems – Every HR system, Lessons Learned.
- *The Apprenticeship Levy has been invested well across the Trust.
- *The appointment of Trust clerk and governance professionals.
- *School Condition Allocation Funding having an impact on all school sites.

And much more!

Well done everyone – I look forward to working with you all on everything that comes next. As always, I am happy to hear any ideas to help us to ensure that 'Every individual is in a great school'.

David O'Toole: CEO

Claire Jones has been working hard on putting together the programme for our Trust conference which will take place on 27th October at Telford

Trust development plan updates:

The 5-year strategic plan overview:

Vision: 'Every individual is in a great school'

Values: Compassionate, Accomplished, Resilient

Mission: To celebrate the diverse nature, culture and identity of our individual schools, whilst enjoying the benefit of the team, so that each school is reciprocal in their support for one another and achieves together.

People	School improvement	Systems and Communication	Sustainable Growth
Professional development pathways	Talent management	'Anytime, anywhere' learning	Building a strong network of schools
High quality terms and conditions	Quality assurance systems	Build a Trust domain	Create a cost-effective central team
Recruitment, retention & succession	Pupil engagement and inclusion	Define the 'Rhythm of the year'	Safe and sustainable Trust estate

School Improvement: Claire Jones, Deputy CEO

This year, it has been great to build our pool of Trust Consultants, many of whom are working in our schools providing valuable support. Thank you to all of the consultants involved. One of the areas we would like to develop as a trust next academic year is the transition between our primary and secondary schools, ensuring that the move to secondary school for our Year 6 pupils is as smooth as possible. We want our Year 6 pupils to be ready academically and socially for the move to Year 7 and we want our secondary teachers to have an insight into the primary curriculum so that the transition is seamless and we are able to maximise on learning for our pupils. I am therefore looking for an upper Key Stage 2 teacher and a teacher who is familiar with the Year 7 expectations to join the Talent Pool and work together to support our schools in this important area. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved: claire.jones@318education.co.uk



Hopefully you have all received an email regarding the Trust conference on 27th October 2023, which will take place at Telford Conference Centre. Please can I ask you to read the email and book onto your 2 chosen workshops by 14th July 2023. Hopefully, you will be able to find 2 workshops that appeal to you. The conference will be a great chance to come together, receive some high quality CPD and develop further networks within and between our schools. We are excited to welcome Kriss Akabusi as our main keynote speakers to the conference. Here is a preview of what to expect from Kriss: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmzKdklYzuc>

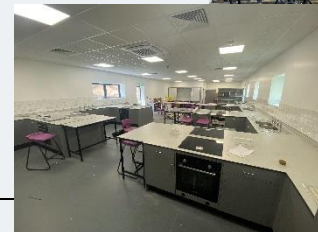
Sustainable Growth: Duncan Wright, CFO



We continue to be patient in relation to the transfer of Bridgnorth Endowed School to the Trust. We are still aiming for a 1st Sept transfer, however we remain at the mercy of the Department for Education (DfE) in relation to the unresolved land issues. Hodnet Primary School has submitted their academy application and we are confident that a decision will be reached before the end of term. Providing approval is given, we are looking at a conversion in late Autumn.

Building Projects Manager, Tim Dodington, is almost at the end of the Technology Barn project at St Martins 3-16 School. You'll recall that the project scope involved transforming the old construction centre into a state-of-the-art food technology room. I'm sure you can see from the photos that Tim and his team have done a fantastic job with the building unrecognisable from when Tim started there in late January. I know the school are excited to move in there during the summer ready for the new academic year.

This project has been funded via the School Condition Allocation (SCA) fund that the Trust receives each year. This grant (around £1m) is distributed on a needs basis, and with St Martins 3-16 school continuing to grow in numbers, a new technology space was needed. Tim's next project is at William Brookes School, where he will be working on creating a new SEN / Pastoral Hub on the ground floor as well as removing the balcony areas in the building. This work will take place over the 6 week summer holiday and be complete for the new academic year.



People: Laura Taylor, HR Director



Every – our new HR Information System

In Autumn 2023 we will be launching Every; our new HR Information System.

This system will look to remove many paper-based processes, where staff will now be able to request special leave directly through the portal, notify of any changes to personal data, manage any return to work following any sickness absence and request flexible working, amongst other things.

Our new recruitment process will also be embedded within this system, meaning all new applicants will apply directly through this Trust portal, ensuring a streamlined process from vacancy approval, shortlisting, through to starting in post, induction and probation.



The Aspire Leadership Programme – Day 2

In May, delegates welcomed further leadership facilitators to join them on Day 2 of the programme, hosted at Bridgnorth Endowed School.

The morning of Day 2 focused on; understanding change management, using best practice for developing initiatives and ideas and developing the team to ensure a shared vision. The afternoon session saw our teaching delegates attend a session on leading curriculum change and our support staff delegates attend coaching essentials.

Feedback continues to be excellent and the collaboration amongst all delegates from across the Trust is inspiring!

My View Payslip System Upgrade

The Trust's payroll is provided through Shropshire Council. They will soon be launching a cloud-hosted upgrade of this system, which will provide increased functionality for staff in enabling them to change bank details directly on the portal, to see comparator pay over a period provided in a graphical format, view new style payslips and see clearly pension contributions made to you by the Trust.

There will be formal communications and a new URL shared with you soon and the good news is that your current usernames and passwords will remain the same!



With the end of the academic year in sight, preparations for the work in the holidays are gathering pace. The IT support team for the Trust are preparing to support or manage:

- The deployment of 100's of desktops and laptops across the schools
- The installation of **over 70, 75"** interactive panels across the schools
- The migration onto our central infrastructure and 365 tenant for Much Wenlock Primary School
- The commissioning of all IT services for Bowbrook Primary School
- The complete overhaul of the switch infrastructure at William Brookes School
- Connectivity in the new tech rooms at St Martins School
- Upgrade the WiFi network at Coleham Primary School

We have also recently outsourced our Data Protection Officer role to a company specialising in data protection and compliance in education. The service offers specialist data lawyers, available for unlimited support for all schools giving us the continued confidence that we can protect and manage all data to the highest of standards in our Trust.

Here are a few figures for you from the last month:

- There are now over 5.4 million OneDrive files stored in our 3-18Education.co.uk domain- up 12.5% in the last 90 days
- There are nearly 1.5 million files stored in your SharePoint sites- up 10% in the last 90 days
- There were over half a million emails sent or received in the last 30 days
- We have blocked 70 active intrusion attempts in the schools networks in the last 40 days and performed over 1.3 billion scans

And here is an image showing that we are all successfully browsing and working on all the correct compliance datacentres in the world.

There were over half a million emails sent or received in the last 30 days

The 3-18 Education Trust

Are you willing to challenge, support and ask questions?

Are you interested in shaping the future for young people?

Can you help a school develop its strategic vision?

Have you got skills to share?

Do you want to make a DIFFERENCE?

BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

To ensure every individual is in a great school

www.318education.co.uk

For more information contact Carole Warner, Clerk to Trust Board
carole.warner@318education.co.uk

The 3-18 Education Trust

To ensure every individual is in a great school

STAFF GOVERNORS NEEDED!

YOU can make a difference

- Are you willing to challenge, support and ask questions?
- Do you have skills you can share?
- Can you help a school develop its strategic vision?
- Would you like to help shape the future of the next generation?

Pupils in your school need your help!

We currently have vacancies to become a governor at your school. Open to both teaching and support staff. Get in touch to find out more!

www.318education.co.uk

For more information contact Carole Warner, Clerk to Trust Board
carole.warner@318education.co.uk

Updates from our schools:

Bowbrook Primary School: Sam Aiston, Headteacher

The Grand Opening is approaching.

This month we have been able to meet the new children who are starting in Reception class in September. They visited us at Coleham school for a stay and play and got to know all the staff. The building is coming along really well and is right on schedule. The walls have been painted and many of the resources have started to arrive. The grounds look amazing: there are two football pitches, a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) as well as a field and forest school area. The whole site is taking shape and the journey is underway!



We are in the process of designing our curriculum as the children take their first steps in 'building successful futures'. We will be providing so many opportunities for the children. We have already booked Theatre Severn for some shows and the children will be taking swimming lessons throughout the Autumn term as well as exploring the local community and having many visits from a range of people from various sectors.



Bridgnorth Endowed School: Michael Penn, Headteacher

BES Students Champion Mental Health Awareness

Bridgnorth Endowed School has gone the extra mile to boost mental health provision for its pupils through a brand-new peer-to-peer support initiative, which has just been launched.

Twenty one students received a full day of specialist training to become Mental Health Champions at a kickstarter course delivered by children's health and wellbeing crusaders, One Goal, last month.

The rigorous selection process saw students from across the school undertaking exercises and learning all about the role, before the final group began their training journey to prepare them for the challenge.

Year 10 student and Mental Health Champion, Amelie Maynard, said: "I learnt a lot from the course. It helped me understand what I need to do in order to help others and how to keep my own mental health on track."

The course covered key facts and looked at mental health on a personal level, it taught them how to use effective strategies to look after their own mental health as well as others, and showed them how to recognise warning signs and issues.

Teacher and project leader, Mr Chase, explained: "We were delighted by the response to this incredibly exciting and important programme."



"We hope that, by having the Mental Health Champions in place, students who are experiencing difficulties will feel more supported and be more likely to reach out to talk to their peers."

The new team of 'champions' are now ready to get to work and have been tasked with increasing awareness of the importance of mental health and promoting more open discussions.

Coleham Primary School: Tom Larkham, Headteacher



Sporting Success

We've had 3 successful Sports Days for each of our phases: lots of excellent sporting action from children, parents and staff! We also came a very solid 2nd place in the Shrewsbury Area Athletics. In addition to that, we have been awarded 'Platinum' for the School Games! This is after an awful lot of hard work from Charlotte Lewis and Tracy Othen, making sure that the young people in most need are engaging with and benefitting from sporting activities. As well as athletics and sports days, there have been a girls' football festival, the rounders festival, dance and multiskills as well! A huge number of our children have represented Coleham School in one way or another in a sporting event this year, which is a fantastic achievement.



Preparing for 2023-24

Lots of change is on the way for Coleham in September, but hopefully no surprises! Claire Jones will be taking up her Deputy CEO role full-time and I will be full-time Head at Coleham. Alison Turner, our new Deputy has been with us for some days this term, which has been invaluable in the complex jigsaw that is organising the new year whilst still fully in the current one! We are welcoming Maria Stennett to the SLT to lead on maths and assessment across the school, and Tricia Storey is morphing from TA Lead to SENDCO Assistant from September. In addition, Chrissi Harris will be taking on a new Assistant Head role to recognise her substantial strategic contribution with her excellent leadership of PP matters whilst remaining EYFS Leader.

We're really looking forward to this new chapter of Coleham's long history! Our school community of children, families and staff deserve it to be a successful transition and we'll work hard to make that happen.

St Martins 3-16 School: Sue Lovecy, Headteacher



Well done to all the performers in this week's Summer Showcase: you were all amazing! It's such a fantastic opportunity to see our students grow in confidence and to perform, drama and music with such enthusiasm and talent. A special thankyou to Ms Poli, Mr James and Ms Fiddy for all the rehearsals and the final shows and to parents and carers for your continued support.

Year 6 had a brilliant time spending 3 days at Arthog Outdoor Centre Fairbourne; this is a lovely school trip where they take part in lots of outdoor adventure activities, including gorge walking, canoeing and rock climbing. They worked as a team and supported each other to try things they hadn't done before. Photos will be shared at the year 6 leavers assemblynext stop Quinta with the year 6 students from other schools who are joining year 7 in September!

Last week we reported on the St Martins Unlimited group who are creating an edible garden in the primary end of school. I am delighted to report that the call for donations was answered by Dobbies and ETC Sawmills. Their very generous donations mean that the group can now make raised planters and get planting and growing! Watch this space for updates!

We enjoyed a fantastic end of year Prom with year 11 this week. It was a lovely end to their school years and we wish them every success as they move onto apprenticeships, college and sixth forms.



Thomas Adams School: Mark Cooper, Headteacher



U13 girls Cricket – WINNERS!

Our U13 girls have won the Chance to Shine regional final at Edgbaston! The team won all 5 games and received a medal, trophy and signed t-shirt by the Birmingham Women's team, Central Sparks. The girls had a great experience playing in such an iconic venue and got to meet some of the players including Shropshire's own Eve Jones.

Year 13 Leavers Ball

The Year 13's had their leavers ball at the Albright Hussey on the 27th June and had a great time celebrating with friends and teachers. They thanked staff for all their help over the last 2 years and for lots of them... over the last 7!

Moving Up Days 2023

On Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th July, we welcomed over 200 Year 6 pupils to Thomas Adams for their 'Moving Up' transition days. The pupils were given a big Thomas Adams welcome by our friendly ambassadors at the front door, then invited to sit in their new form groups. After a head teacher's welcome, they were introduced to their Head of Year and Form Tutors before heading off for a full day of lessons. On day two, everyone was introduced to the house system before heading off for another day of lessons. On the Tuesday evening, we invited parents/carers to an information evening which was well attended – we are looking forward to seeing everyone in September.



Much Wenlock Primary: Carl Litchfield, Headteacher



It seems incredible that we are approaching the end of another school year. At this stage of the year, we reflect on our achievements and take pride in those expectations which have been realised whilst looking at what improvements we can make for the future.

This term is also a very busy period with lots of different activities taking place. One event that is always popular is our annual "Wenlock's Got Talent" show. This is an opportunity for children and staff to show off their creative talents. All children and staff can audition and the finalists perform in front of the school during the final week of term.

To ensure the children have a smooth passage to the next class we hold a transition morning allowing children to meet their next teacher. Watson will be teaching Year 3 and Mrs Howell-James, our new Deputy Headteacher, will be teaching Year 5.



We are looking forward to welcoming our new intake of younger children into school in September. As part of our preparation, we identify older children to act as 'middle-sized friends' to support the new reception children during their first days and weeks in school. These 'middle-sized friends' ensure the children can find their way around school and help with routines such as lunchtime and playtime as well as supporting them to form new friendships.

The Priory School: Alison Pope, Headteacher

Enrichment week- The week beginning 23rd June saw The Priory return to it's pre-Covid format of Enrichment Week with the return to foreign trips, alongside more local and regional ones. Year 8 went to Paris led by Mrs Talbot and Year 9 ventured on the Art trip to Holland. Year 7 were also able to experience a residential trip, although a little more locally, at Boreatton Park PGL. This was supplemented by trips to Chester, Escape Rooms, Crocky trail and Alton Towers for those who weren't able to gain a place on the trips abroad. In addition, subject staff planned and delivered project based work in PE, Drama and DT back in school. Many thanks to all of the staff who enabled pupils to have such a fantastic experience. While Key Stage 3 were embroiled in trips Year 10 were sampled the world of work while on Work Experience. It was great to see the vast majority of the year group able to secure a placement. Many have returned with a real insight into their chosen vocations, alongside a number who have a new found appreciation of school!



House Athletics - Friday 7th July witnessed our annual House Athletics competition. We were blessed with perfect weather which made the colourful, House Shirts look even better in glorious sunshine. The levels of participation from all students was commented on by the PE department and wider staff body, with everyone cheering on their own House even when they didn't know the names of competitors. It was good to see the friendly House rivalry alive and kicking! Parks stormed to victory, closely followed by King and Attenborough. All House points go towards the end of year total to be announced in the end of year Full School Assembly.



William Brookes School: Stephen Richards, Headteacher

Primary School Sports Day: On 26th June William Brookes School hosted its Primary School Sports Day. Over 350 primary school students and their parents attended this event from our 8 Primary Feeders including Barrow, Buildwas, Brockton, Church Preen, Cressage, Broseley, John Wilkinson and Much Wenlock. Many thanks to Noah Bourton, our School Games Coordinator and to our PE department who organized such a fabulous event; but most importantly to the 48 Junior Sports Leaders who were operationally in charge of making the event run smoothly. They were an absolute credit to our school.



The final two weeks of term will be very busy for our young performers ... whether that is on the track, pitch or stage. We have the Summer Dance Festival, our school production 'School of Rock' and the Annual Sports Presentation Evening. We believe that through performance our students learn many of our school values but especially; striving for excellence; working hard and respect.

1st and 2nd July saw William Brookes School hosting the annual Wenlock Olympian Games, a unique event that celebrates our local community's place in Olympic history. Several of our students 'medalled' during the weekend these included Grace Gray - 1st in the U17 Hurdles and 2nd in the U17 High Jump ; Dan Cameron, 2nd place in the U13 800m, Olly Cameron, 1st in the U15 800m and 1st in the U15 Shot Putt and Sion Williams who won bronze in the U13 100m. Hannah Selby, Claudia Mitchell & Sophie Hayward were also part of the winning U14 Wenlock Lightning team.

Finally, Mr Jones and his team of willing students are ready for their garden design to be unveiled at the Shrewsbury Flower Show. If you are attending the show then do drop in and speak to our amazing students who will be only too pleased to talk about their gardening exploits!

