

# Autumn 2024 newsletter



## Hello from David O'Toole, CEO

Welcome to the Autumn edition of The 3-18 Education Trust staff newsletter.

Firstly, I would like to extend my gratitude to our entire school community for the exceptional efforts during the term. We have had a range of visitors in our schools supporting us in our continued drive to make our schools great, and the experiences for our children rich and rewarding. Visitors to our Trust schools are always keen to report back how wonderful our school communities are and how passionate our staff are about making them even better.

Additionally, can I thank all our staff, parents and children who worked together to keep all our schools open during the recent snow and cold weather. Your resilience and cooperation has ensured children maintain excellent attendance and continue to access great learning.

Being in school is incredibly important to achievement, wellbeing and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results, and helps to secure their personal choices for the future. With this in mind, please enjoy a safe and happy Christmas period and come back ready for the next part of our journey together.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and celebrating the fantastic achievements and events from across The 3-18 Education Trust.

---

## From our Trustees

### In this term's newsletter

- [News from our Trust](#)
- [News from our schools](#)
- [Coming up next term](#)

Thank you to all those involved in governance including members, local governors and the governance support team for their hard work during this busy term.

If you know of anybody who is interested in governance roles in our schools, please contact Carole Warner. Planning for February's governance conference is underway, and we look forward to meeting with many of our governors at the event.

# News from our Trust

## Developing together at our conference

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual Trust staff conference on 4th November. With over 500 teachers, support staff and governors in one place, this is the highlight of our Trust calendar. Planning is already underway for next year's event. Can you spot yourself and colleagues in our highlights video?

[Watch highlights](#)



## New staff benefits package

Many staff have been enjoying the perks of our new benefits package offered through Vivup. The benefits are designed to improve your mental, physical and financial wellbeing - from online GP services and an Employee Assistance Programme, to home and electronics and shopping saving schemes. It's quick and easy to sign up with your staff email address.



[Explore benefits on HR Hub](#) (Staff access only)

## CPD training packages now on SharePoint

You can now access resources from all Trust CPD sessions on our dedicated CPD SharePoint site. Highlights include:

- Training packs for Research Based Lesson Studies
- Presentations and handouts from conference workshops
- CPD calendar for upcoming events and training calendar

[CPD SharePoint site](#) (Staff access only)



## Solar savings at four schools

Energy saving solar panels have been installed at Much Wenlock Primary, The Priory, St Martins 3-16 and William Brookes School this year as part of the School Condition Allocation (SCA) investment. The solar panels will help reduce energy usage as part of an initiative to reduce total energy usage across the Trust by 11% per year, which in turn will save £100k.

[Read more](#)

# News from our schools



## Bowbrook Primary School

Christmas is fast approaching, nativity practice is in full swing, and our grotto is all set up. Bowbrook continues to be the school of opportunity with visits to Adcote, Shrewsbury School, Chester Zoo and many more. In our school we have hosted a circus, science workshops, music, and social events for our community. The children continue to thrive and learn Spanish, music, and swimming from the age of five. We have been all action, and we have loved it!

[News from Bowbrook](#)

---

## Bridgnorth Endowed School

We hosted a dazzling awards evening at St Mary's Church, recognising over 100 students' achievements in academic success, sports, the arts, and community service. Highlights included an inspiring speech by former student and Coronation Street star Harry Lowbridge, some incredible performances, and the prestigious Headteacher's Awards. The event showcased the school's commitment to developing well-rounded young people and celebrating their unique abilities.



[News from Bridgnorth Endowed](#)



## Coleham Primary School

As part of our programme to support disadvantaged pupils, we have been hosting 'Friday Night Dinner'. We have teamed up with Steve Guy ('The Hungry Guy') and the Food Hub to provide an opportunity for children to prepare, cook and serve meals to their families (and SLT!). It's been a great way to further enrich these children's experiences of school and also allows us to bring their parents more into school so that we can reach them better.

[News from Coleham](#)



# News from our schools



## Hodnet Primary School

The autumn term has been a great success at Hodnet once again. We held our traditional community bonfire and fireworks event, which was attended and enjoyed by many. We also welcomed prospective new parents to school through our open mornings. Our happy children and staff have participated in school and trust events including class assemblies, sporting competitions, art festival workshops and the Trust conference for staff. We look forward to Christmas joy in school over the coming weeks.

[News from Hodnet](#)

---

## Much Wenlock Primary School

We are thrilled to announce the completion of recent refurbishments which are part of our ongoing plan to enhance the school environment. Working closely with our Trust, we have created improved spaces around the school that pupils love, especially in the beautiful Nursery building. Feedback from staff, parents and children has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are excited for further improvements ahead.

[News from Much Wenlock](#)



---

## St Martins 3-16 School

Our annual Careers Fair continues to thrive! This year over 27 organisations and businesses participated, sharing their knowledge and expertise with students in Years 9, 10, and 11. In the lead-up to the event, students dedicate time in tutor and PSHE lessons to research the participating organisations, identifying those they are most interested in speaking with. This preparation helps students approach the fair with confidence, and many find the event both informative and inspiring. Visiting organisations frequently praise the fair, remarking that it is one of the best they attend.

[News from St Martins](#)



# News from our schools



## The Priory School

We are now using PowerBI to track and monitor student engagement in wider school life; clubs and house activities/events. This links to our Arbor data and gives us a clear picture of who our most and least engaged students are in these important areas of school. We are using this data to support the delivery of participation themed assemblies and how we adapt our extracurricular provision to improve participation in wider school life. Still a work in progress but the early signs is that this will be very powerful.

[News from Priory](#)

---

## The Thomas Adams School

The much-awaited new modular building is nearing completion! The state-of-the-art space is designed to offer additional support for all pupils to address any barriers to accessing the classroom and will be a fantastic addition to the school's facilities. Congratulations to Head of PE, Ceri Kempster, on receiving the Secondary School Teacher of the Year award at the recent Cricket Shropshire presentation evening.

[News from Thomas Adams](#)



---

## William Brookes School

Students at William Brookes School have been awarded RLSS (Royal Life Saving Society UK) accreditation, national Water Smart Schools Gold Award. This certification recognises the commitment the school shows to water safety. The award allows students to learn how to stay safe in and around water. Due to our geographic location, a stone's throw from the River Severn, it is particularly important that students are educated in keeping themselves safe around water.

[News from William Brookes](#)



# Coming up next term



## **\*New\* Teaching Assistant Network Group**

- Spring sessions: 15th, 20th and 29th January 2025



## **Primary school application deadline**

- 15th January 2025



## **Governance Conference 2025**

- 8th February 2025



## **Cycle to Work scheme launches**

- 10th February 2025



## **Aspire Leadership programme (Day 2)**

- 11th February 2025



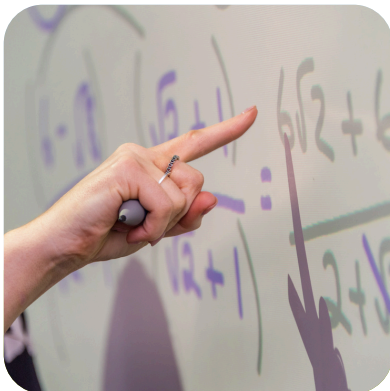
## **National offer day for primary and secondary school places**

- 16th April 2025



## **Professional Development Review (PDR) check-ins to be completed by all staff**

- 25th April 2025



## **Your feedback on staff communication**

How would you like to hear about news and updates from across our Trust?

Please fill out this three question survey to give us your feedback.

[Share your feedback now](#)

(Staff access only)

**Driven by our mission to ensure  
'every individual is in a great school'.**



**EDUCATION  
TRUST**

[www.3-18education.co.uk](http://www.3-18education.co.uk)