

Raising Aspiration, Raising Achievement

A warm welcome to Elevate Multi Academy Trust!

This is our first Trust newsletter, intended to keep you informed of what is going on in the Trust.

In July 2017, the journey began for Elevate Multi Academy Trust. The reasons for becoming a MAT in the changing educational landscape were clear:

- ✿ to deliver an innovative, highly effective approach to teaching and learning,
- ✿ raising standards and aspirations for all;
- ✿ to work collaboratively with other primary schools in the area,
- ✿ sharing best practice and challenging each other to ensure the very best education for children
- ✿ creating bespoke educational system that best meets the needs of children in our local area.

Six schools are currently members of our primary academy Trust, serving 1500 pupils across the local area.

- ✿ Aspin Park Academy, Meadowside Academy and Topcliffe C of E Academy - joined July 2017;
- ✿ Carlton Miniott Primary Academy, Knayton C of E Academy and Sowerby Primary Academy - joined February 2018;
- ✿ Thorner C of E Primary School - joining June 2018.
- ✿ We are also in discussion with several other successful primary schools in the local area who have expressed an interest in joining our Trust during the next academic year.

In other exciting Trust news, we have been granted a contract from the DFE to build a new one-form entry primary school in Sowerby. The Keeble Gateway Academy will open its doors September 2019. This school was named after Dame Reena Keeble, a celebrated educationalist from London with a damehood for her services to education who has been instrumental in helping to shape Trust philosophy. Keeble Gateway Academy will open, in the first year, with up to 30 Reception children and 25 nursery children and will grow by 30 children in Reception every year following.

Elevate is a family of like-minded educationalists with equal partnership between the Diocese of Leeds, the Diocese of York and the local community.

Elevate is a unique Trust in many ways: our main priority being children, families and their educational journey. We have high expectations which we know can be achieved by creating a strong collaboration between children, parents/guardians and talented and caring headteachers, teachers and their support staff.

The agreed principles for Elevate Multi Academy Trust are:

- ✿ **Effective Assessment** – We use assessment to identify children's strengths and next steps and use this valuable information to effectively plan for learning, based on their needs.
- ✿ **Teachers Teach** – We ensure that we find ways to reduce bureaucracy placed on teachers, freeing them up to focus attention on the most important aspect of education – the children in their classrooms.



- ✿ **Leaders Lead Learning** – We are creating a strong central administrative team to remove non educational jobs from Head teachers, thereby reducing bureaucracy and allowing them to focus on pupil outcomes.
- ✿ **Quality, Joined-Up CPD** - Our Academies meet regularly to participate in professional development to explore how best to deliver the educational vision of the Trust.
- ✿ **Highest Expectations** – We teach ALL children to achieve at least age-related expectations. No longer will the bar be set for children to achieve below this marker.
- ✿ **'No Excuse' Culture** – We have raised expectations of all stakeholders, across the Trust, that ALL children can achieve the best outcomes.

The Trustees, in collaboration with your Headteachers, have written their vision and values for Elevate, which will be the core of their teaching.

Vision

To be a family of professional and aspirational academies, where children are valued, inspired and confident.

To share a relentless determination that every child can achieve and no child is left behind.

Values

- ✿ Children, staff and families are at the heart of everything we do;
- ✿ High expectations for all, in all we do;
- ✿ Improvement through professional partnership and collaboration;
- ✿ Outcome driven practice informed by reflection, analysis and research.

Although the vision and values are core to the Academies within Elevate, each Academy that your child/ren attends maintains its individuality.

The day to day running of each Academy within the Trust remains the responsibility of your Headteacher and their Senior Leadership Team. As part of the Trust, Academies are now able to collaborate more effectively and share best practice/ideas with others in Elevate, so no one feels isolated and everyone feels supported.

Key Personnel

Elevate CEO	– Nigel Ashley
Elevate School Improvement Director	– Emma Higgins

Elevate Members

Rev. Nigel Sinclair	– Diocese of Leeds Appointee
The Bishop of Whitby	– Diocese of York Appointee
Dame Reena Keeble	– Elevate Appointee
Jim Brown	– Elevate Appointee
Jenny Carpenter	– York St John University

Elevate Trustees

Nigel Ashley

Rev. Nigel Sinclair

Katherine Humpleby

David Tucker, Alison Wilson and Dr. Liz Foster

David Blanchfield and John Brear

– CEO Elevate

– Diocese of Leeds Trustee

– Diocese of York Trustee

– Academy Trustees

– Member Approved Trustees

Elevate Headteachers

Aspin Park Academy

Carlton Miniott C of E Primary Academy

Knayton C of E Academy

Meadowside Academy

Sowerby Primary Academy

Thorner C of E Primary School

Topcliffe C of E Academy

– Nick Long

– Steve Crocker

– Nikkie Beniams

– Annie Gregory

– Keeley Ungerechts

– Ian Holmes

– Abi Clay

Local Governing Bodies

Each Academy retains its governing body. The role of governor is still important, as they serve to monitor and challenge the Headteacher and act as their critical friend.

Although at present there are no vacancies for parent governors there are vacancies for co-opted governors in some of our Academies. If you are interested in becoming a governor at a like-minded Academy please contact Dianne Mousley, our compliance officer who will be able to provide you with further information on the role of governor. (d.mousley@elevatemat.org).

Parents

As a Trust, we are very keen for you to understand and be actively involved in your child/ren's learning. The first few months of the Trust have been very busy reorganising office functionality to meet the needs of a collaboration of schools. In the next few months this will be complete and one of the first tasks of the new team will be to ascertain your views of the standard of education your child/ren currently receives. In the meantime, I include my email address at the bottom of this letter if you would like to contact me.

I hope that you have enjoyed this first newsletter. We look forward to sending you regular updates, which will also be accessible via your Academy's websites. We hope to have an Elevate website up and running very soon with additional Trust news and information.

If you would like to get in touch, please email n.ashley@elevatemat.org

Kind regards,

Nigel Ashley

Chief Executive Officer

Elevate Multi Academy Trust



In partnership with the Diocese of Leeds and the Diocese of York



