



Issue 2 - Summer 2021

It has been a turbulent period of time in the world of education since we last wrote at the start of the Spring Term, so here are a few updates on the progress of the Trust.

Return to School

The lockdown of the last term and the return in March happened successfully at our schools, and we applied many lessons from the first time. Learning was able to be far more interactive with the use of Microsoft Teams, and students have settled quickly back into school since our return. This term has continued successfully with high attendance and students enjoying being back in the schools, although there has unsurprisingly been a tangible need for support among some of our children who have fallen behind their peers. We have plans in place to help them get back on track and make up as

much of the ground they have missed as we can.

Leadership of the ELT

The trustees decided last term to free up Mike Boddington to concentrate more fully on the leadership of the Trust and dedicate his energies in supporting the schools we have while enabling other schools to join the family. He now moves to being Executive Headteacher of the Trust with Andy King appointed to be Head of School at Esher High School to manage the day-to-day leadership and running of the school. This is an exciting proposition and means that the central team, which is a capable and focussed group, can work more closely together to provide an excellent level of support for the schools that are already in, and planning to join, the Trust.

Our core team includes skills

and experience successful at both primary and secondary leadership level, as well as Finance and Operations, Health & Safety, Contract Management, Human Resources as well as Information Technology. It is rewarding to build such a knowledgeable team and it means we are well positioned to support other schools on both a formal and informal basis.

Growth of the Trust

We are preparing for further growth and recently two schools both from the primary phase have contacted the Regional School Commissioner to indicate their formal intention to join. The process is underway and we are delighted to welcome these successful schools to join the family which is now beginning to grow. They share similar values and cultures so we are now looking to start the official due

diligence process so we can become a really effective unit.

We have distilled six reasons as to why we think our trust is distinct - our points of difference. These are intended to help prospective schools identify what we are like and whether we would be a good fit as a Trust. These are;

- Genuine belief that every child can succeed and flourish
- Excellent staff development opportunities
- Highly capable and enthusiastic trust leadership team to draw on
- We act in the interests of children by fostering interdependence
- Curriculum innovation and development
- Clear Christian vision, underpinned by community engagement

You can find out more about these points of difference [here](#).

Working with local, regional and national bodies to improve teaching and CPD

There have been some exciting developments in the Early Career Framework (formerly the NQT year) and we are prepared for the changes. We will be a strategic lead for delivering the training of new colleagues joining our profession and will be working with schools and teachers across NE Surrey.

We are also collaborating with the Diocese Board of Education to support Anglican schools across the diocese and beyond in sustaining and improving their provision.

We have a skilled and experienced team who can also draw on knowledge from a wider network of contacts. We have built up these contacts while working alongside schools in providing them with support and strategies designed to ensure a long-term path of improvement.

The Future

We are really positive about the future of the Trust. We are enjoying the opportunities of working well beyond the boundaries of our group of schools, building expertise and capacity to effect real change.

We hope that this has given you some insight into the ongoing work of the Trust and look forward to updating you again in the Autumn term.

Best wishes

Enlighten Learning Trust

