



Welcome back, one and all!

After 2 weeks of normal school life, the summer holidays feel like a dim and distant memory already—though the “*scorchio*” mid-September gave us at least a couple of days of belated summer weather—typical! It’s been so energizing seeing how happy our children and young people are to be back in school.

I’ve been doing the rounds at all our schools to share the new Trust vision and mission statement, which is that we are all **“Learning together; to be the best we can be”**. I think this is a really accurate reflection of what we’re all about, and is as applicable to one of our schools as it is to all of them. To realise this vision, the Trust Board have agreed the accompanying mission statement:

- **Our learners and their families are at the centre of what we do;** empowered to learn and achieve; valued within our and their communities as visible, resilient, active and responsible citizens.
- **Our employees and partners are passionate about being the best that they can be;** providing opportunities for enriched learning and pathways to employment and independence.
- **Our Trust is relentlessly focused on improvement;** it values and celebrates success and builds partnerships to develop personalised provision with and for those we serve.

What is truly humbling is that—when Headteachers worked with our school communities to ask what they felt are the best characteristics of the schools—staff came back with the following words: **Inclusive, Child Centred, Family Focused, Caring, Passionate, Nurturing, Encouraging, Enriching, Empowering**. It’s not a surprise that this is what our staff believe our schools stand for: it’s still really impressive though!

I expect that the next 12 months will bring lots of exciting new developments for the Trust, which will create new opportunities for our schools and the children and families we serve. The conversations I’ve been having with different partners over the summer hold real promise and will allow us to start delivering on the big strategic aims and objectives we set when we started the journey of academisation.

I’ll write again in 30, but I’ll see you all around in between!



Warren Carratt—Chief Executive Officer

