

Market Drayton Learning Partnership

Trustees' Report 25 April 2016

Company Registration number:	09332914
Registered office:	Grove School Newcastle Road Market Drayton Shropshire TF9 1HF
Trustees:	J Hargreaves (Chair) S Scott S Taylor P Ingham T Hayward Rev H Snook R Williams K Tuzylak I Nurser
Company Secretary:	M Williams
Accountants:	TBC
Bankers:	Lloyds Bank
Solicitors:	DWF LLP

Vision, Values and Aims:

The trust's vision is "To work as a community to support our children and young people in their enjoyment of learning, raising their aspirations and their achievements as learners now and for the future."

As a cooperative trust, the trust has adopted the co-operative values of self-responsibility, self-help, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity– along with the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

The aims of the trust are to:

- Improve outcomes for all of the pupils and students in its schools
- Enable its schools to grow, develop and improve together
- Provide an inclusive, safe and caring learning environment with a particular focus on the most vulnerable children
- Develop the skills and expertise of staff across all its schools
- Share resources and skills between its schools
- Encourage the wider community to invest in its schools through inclusive democratic structures and specific projects that help raise aspirations and achievements in both schools and community.

Achievements and Performance:

Since the formal establishment of the trust on 1 December 2014, the trustees have met four times (once each academic term). During that period they have:

- Appointed Michelle Williams as company secretary;
- Welcomed Karen Tuzylak-Maguire, representing Manchester Metropolitan University, and Ian Nurser, for the North Shropshire Teaching School Alliance, to the Trust Board;
- Strengthened and developed the annual town schools collaboration action plan for joint working to improve teaching and learning, with particular emphasis on numeracy and literacy. There has been effective collaborative work, for example, on approaches to teaching problem solving in mathematics, including the Big Maths programme at the primary schools, and a focus on writing skills and the development of a clear progression in spelling and grammar;
- Engaged staff from all three schools in The Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme (TEEP) – an action research approach supporting improvement in classroom practice and improved attainment;
- Held an enthusiastically received launch event which saw the entire Junior School and Infant School participating in cross-phase learning activities with students and staff at Grove School. The day culminated with 1,200 pupils and staff forming the town's gingerbread shape for an aerial photograph which is likely to become the trust's logo;
- Organised a preliminary meeting with stakeholders from all constituencies of the partnership's membership and set in course the creation of a stakeholder forum.

During this period:

- Grove School was inspected by Ofsted, which judged the effectiveness of leadership and management at the school, as well as students' personal development, behaviour and welfare, to be 'good'. Improvements are still required, but inspectors recognised that achievement is rising overall, and sharply in some areas.
- Staff at the Infant School, working through the North Shropshire Teaching School Alliance, have played a major part in the design and delivery of an effective staff development programme for early years' settings across North Shropshire.

Plans for the coming year:

Trustees will be proactively steering a course through changing government legislation on education structures -- with the aim of maximising opportunities for furthering the vision of the trust while minimising threats to it.

They will also:

- Establish new priorities and actions for their annual collaborative improvement plan;
- Build on joint staff development through TEEP to embed improved classroom practice and improve student attainment;
- Support the development of an effective stakeholder forum, and in particular facilitate the three school councils working together to enable them to contribute democratically;
- Develop the relationship with partner trustees MMU and North Shropshire Teaching Alliance;
- Organise an inter-school event celebrating student achievements reflecting the cooperative values;
- Organise an inter-school sports 'Olympiad'.