

In the future generation we Trust!

Trust NEWSLETTER

Future
Generation
Trust

Issue 1 - April 19



Ensuring you are always informed of our progress.

As this is the first newsletter on behalf of the Trust we thought it would be useful to provide some background information and details of our structure, before sharing updates on progress.



Future Generation Trust was established in 2015 with a vision to ensure that all our pupils develop qualities and skills that will enable them to have happy and successful adult lives. The Trust aims for

its pupils to establish a strong foundation from which they can move forward in life with purpose and belief.

The importance of our Academies having a clear focus upon enjoyment, participation and high achievement is recognised as being instrumental in reaching this goal.

This newsletter provides you with an overview of the Trust structure, success to date and future developments.

Our Academies



Trust board structure

Trust Board Members

Fliss Dale, Rob Grinsted, Sue Davenport,
Peter Bishop, Graham Clegg

Trust Board Directors

Fliss Dale	Hilary Southern
Jan Macey	Paul Woodhead
Stuart Ayres	Denise Dalton
Mark Whitehouse	3 x Vacancies
Peter Farrow	

Trust Board Committees

Finance and Resources
Curriculum

Local Governing Bodies

St John's

Gentleshaw

St Peter's

The Trust, like all multi Academy Trusts, operates as a company limited by guarantee. The Members in effect act in a similar way to the independent shareholders of a company, whereas the Trust Board Directors are those accountable in company and charity law for the oversight of the Trust. It is the Trust Board that is the key strategic decision making body for the Trust. The day to day running of each Academy is the responsibility of Stuart Ayres, as Chief Executive Officer, and his team

of Head Teachers. Stuart is also responsible for the development of the Trust and its staff. Stuart has both a Head Teacher's Forum and a Senior Leadership Team, which includes experienced support staff, in place to assist with this. Local Governing Bodies for each Academy provide monitoring of the performance of their Academy, operating within the powers that are delegated to them by the Trust Board. **More information about the Trust structure is available on the website.**

FUTURE developments

With a fourth school expected to join the Trust from September 2019, and a significant number of other schools making enquiries, we anticipate having a full complement of 6 Academies by 2021. The success of each Academy, and by default the Trust, will be based upon pupil attainment, pupil achievement and the ability to demonstrate sound financial management. As a Trust we are responsible for the facilities and infrastructure of all Academies and can apply for various capital grants to ensure each Academy building is maintained, and improved. Excellent, fit for purpose learning environments and high

quality resources for staff are at the heart of the Trust's Development Plan. Shortly after conversion in 2015 St John's benefited from a significant grant to replace a large section of flat roofing while more recently Gentleshaw has had planning approval for two new classrooms, with work expected to start soon. St Peter's is having a quad converted into an additional space for Early Years. We currently have a number of grant applications in for other works across the Trust to support our future growth and we are hopeful that at least some of these will be successful.

SUCCESS to date

The Trust was originally set up with only one school, St John's Primary Academy, with an aspiration to grow to a maximum of six Academies, all of which should be within a 30 minutes travelling radius of Essington.

Since 2015 two further schools have joined, Gentleshaw Primary near Burntwood and more recently St Peter's Primary in Hednesford. A fourth school, Etching Hill Primary in Rugeley, has just been granted an Academy Order from the Department for Education and the conversion process should be completed by 1st September 2019 when they will formally join the Trust.

All our Academies are popular choices for parents. They offer a broad curriculum and cater for the needs of individual pupils and their families. They are constantly developing and improving their talented staffing teams and achieve good pupil performance levels in national testing. Attendance rates are also high and above national averages.

Leadership Teams are passionate about providing the best education possible for pupils in their settings and there is a collective drive and determination to be a highly successful and innovative Trust.

The benefits of being part of a Multi Academy Trust are numerous for both pupils and employees. The collaborative work and sharing of good practice between the Academies clearly strengthens teaching and enhances pupil's daily experiences as well as more opportunities for schools to come together for sporting activities and educational trips. Opportunities for staff, at all levels, to develop their career have already arisen and will continue to evolve as the



Trust expands. A key aim of FGT is to retain and reward talented staff who identify with the Trust's culture and ethos. Stuart Ayres, previously Headteacher at St John's has now taken on the role of Trust Chief Executive overseeing all Academies and we have appointed Samantha Price to the post of Headteacher at St John's, after 7 years as Headteacher at St Peter's. More recently we have appointed Will Stevens to the Headteacher role at St Peter's. All of these roles will officially start in September 2019. Sam, Will and Genevieve Parsons, at Gentleshaw, form a strong, committed headteacher team.

The next stage of staff recruitment is to appoint Deputy Headteachers at St John's and St Peter's and this process is already underway with these roles also commencing from September 2019.

GOVERNANCE vacancies

All Trust Members, Directors and Local Governing Body representatives are volunteers who provide their time and expertise for the benefit of each Academy and the Trust. The volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds. Some are parents of children in the Academies, some are parents who continue to support the Trust after their children have left primary education and a few are from other employment sectors with particular expertise. Members, Directors and Local Governors are responsible for supporting the implementation of the Trust vision at each Academy and also objectively reviewing performance using a range of key success criteria.

The Trust Board currently has three vacancies and the Directors have identified some particular skills which would be beneficial as the Trust continues to grow. Information Technology (IT) is high on our agenda, with the speed upon which IT changes and also the risks associated with the use of social media and cyber security, it is important that we have continual development and investment in our IT infrastructure. It is also clear that our children need good digital skills as they progress through their education and into adulthood, and so having an excellent curriculum and facilities to support this is key. We are therefore; looking to appoint a new Trust Board Director with skills in current and future IT road mapping, who can guide the Trust on the IT journey to ensure we are using the technology for the next generation.

We are also looking for someone who has a facilities and estates background.

With six Academies eventually in the Trust and growing pupil numbers, we are continually having to consider how we best use the facilities and also have a programme of ongoing maintenance. The Head of Operations and Facilities oversees all facilities, and closely monitors the cost of running each building. However having a Trust Board Director who specialises in this area will provide additional expertise to guide the direction we take.

We welcome expertise from all areas of employment and therefore the final vacancy is open for anyone who has a desire to be part of an exciting growing Trust for the benefit of the provision of an excellent learning environment for our children.

If you are interested in finding out more please email me at:

fliss.dale@futuregenerationtrust.co.uk with your contact details, or to apply please provide an overview of the skills/expertise you have to offer and a brief summary of why you are interested in being considered. Recruitment will be by way of a formal meeting and will also require standard safeguarding assessments. If appointed you will become a Director of the Trust and be listed as such at Companies House. Induction and full training will be provided to successful applicants. I hope that you have found this first newsletter interesting and informative. We will provide regular updates in future.

Best Wishes



Fliss Dale
Chair of Trust

