



Thrive Education Partnership | Termly Newsletter

Trust Update | Spring 2022

Message from the CEO



As we approach the end of the spring term, I would like to thank all staff for their continued support and commitment. As CEO I have had the privilege of visiting all schools to see first-hand some of the exceptional work that takes place across the Trust and how this results in some remarkable achievements for our young people.

It has been a delight to see, by and large, our schools return to normal school life over this term, with an ever-widening range of curricular and extra-curricular activities becoming available once again. I expect, that as we move into the Summer Term, this will only develop further and see us able to have our students interacting in more off-site, community-based activities which are always so valuable. Hopefully, we will also be much more able to host parents and families to events and activities as they are key partners in our students' learning journey.

This term saw the opening of our third school, The Warwickshire Academy (TWA) on the outskirts of Coventry; we formally welcome the staff and students to Thrive Education Partnership and look forward to the benefits of future, sustained, mutual collaboration. As TEP continues to grow, the positive impact of teamwork becomes even more apparent as we all benefit from sharing best practice, resources, IT expertise and improved economies of scale. Of course, COVID-19 has had an enormous impact on our lives this year, but I am immensely proud of the way that everyone in the Thrive family has risen to the numerous challenges we have faced. I want to thank all staff, LGB members and Trustees for the way in which they have worked together to ensure that pupils' learning, safety, and well-being remained priorities throughout this challenging time. For me, this overriding feeling of support and cooperation across the trust remains a positive and lasting legacy from a year that has seen such disruption and anxiety.

It just remains for me to wish you all a safe and relaxing Easter Break, and I look forward to seeing you all next term.

Richard

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Thrive Whole Trust Inset Day

As our Trust continues to grow, it is important that we continue to strengthen communication and collaboration across the Trust. On **June 10th 2022** we will conduct our first Whole Trust Inset Training. Our Leaders from each of our schools, and partner schools, will be attending the Thrive Leadership Day. The day will be held at Birmingham City FC stadium. Leaders will receive training and agree cross trust projects as part of our proposal to become a self-improving system. All staff from each of our schools will receive a day of directed tasks from your Head Teacher.



Thrive



“You are what you do, not what you say you’ll do”

It is important that we work collectively towards our vision, whilst holding ourselves to our collective values:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Kindness
- Safety
- Ambitious

Although our visions and values may vary slightly within each school, it is important that we are all aware of what the Trust stands for, what we are working towards, and the expectations of ourselves and others. Actions speak louder than words.

Thrive Education Partnership have been extremely busy identifying and agreeing opportunities with partner schools. We have been able to support each of these schools by establishing a school improvement offer across our region. We are currently working directly with 3 maintained schools that we aim to introduce to the wider Trust during our Trust wide Inset day on June 10th. We look forward to demonstrating the range of our school improvement offer and the benefits of creating a self-improving system across the Thrive Education Partnership.

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Our Schools



The long awaited opening of The Warwickshire Academy is finally upon us. We would like to thank the staff at The Warwickshire Academy for the cross trust work they have conducted prior to the opening of the school. We would like to wish you all the best of luck in opening the amazing new site.



Calthorpe Academy have continued to drive forward with their impressive careers offer. We would like to congratulate the careers team on achieving The National Quality in Careers Standard. This award reflects the ambitious curriculum offer and dedicated teaching of key knowledge, skills and experiences throughout the age ranges at the school. We would like to thank everyone for their dedication to ensuring our leavers achieve their goals upon graduation of Calthorpe Academy.



Kingsbury Academy has recently had its first Ofsted inspection since joining our Trust. The current senior leadership team has been driving the school towards their intended destination for the past 14 months. We are excited to see how Ofsted has reviewed the work conducted by this team over the last two academic years.

Spring School Improvement

The Central Team suspended all School Improvement work for January and February, at the request of the Head Teachers. We decided to cater to this request as an acknowledgment of the ongoing impact of covid on class closures and staff absences.

School Improvement resumed in March 2022 as the team conducted a Self-Evaluation Form (SEF) review in each of our schools.

The SEF review comprised of interviews with Governors, Head Teachers and senior leaders in order to establish the strengths and areas identified for improvement. Once the review was completed we worked with school leaders to agree ways forward.

The Middle Level Leaders (MLL) training was also postponed, at the request of Head Teachers, due to ongoing staffing issues. Therefore, the MLL course will resume in upon our return after the Easter Holidays.

Prioritising our People

Laura Marsden – Assistant Head Teacher at Calthorpe

“My journey from TA to Assistant Head at Calthorpe Academy”

I had always wanted to become a teacher; I had completed my Fine Art Degree but after starting a family this was temporarily put on hold. I started at Calthorpe Academy in 2007 as a cover Teaching Assistant. I thought the role was ideal short term as it would help to give me the experience, I would need to apply for teacher training- little did I know that I would feel so at home and still be here 15 years later!

My first role taught me so much- as the cover teaching assistant it was a fantastic foundation for learning about all the different needs of the learners and what teaching and learning looked at across each key stage through observing teachers, other teaching assistants and senior leaders around me-plus it equipped me with inside knowledge of who had the best resources! Most importantly through this experience and the training delivered it made me realise how much I loved to learn myself.

When I discovered that Calthorpe offered a teacher training programme I knew this is the route I wanted to take and that I wanted to be a teacher at Calthorpe. I started my training in 2011 had an excellent school-based mentor that helped to tutor and coach me through my teacher training programme based both here at Calthorpe and a local mainstream setting. My first teaching post was within Calthorpe’s nursery class and I always gravitated towards our learners with more sensory based needs as it allowed me to be more creative!

In 2014 I became the RE Coordinator for the school and this taught me so much about having an impact across whole school and implementing SMSC. With support of the senior leaders within this role I developed the confidence and skills I needed and became Head of Department for learners with PMLD. This was a brilliant role and the CPD offered by the leadership team taught me so much about supporting others; it led to learning the skills needed to transfer into my current role as Assistant Head and Pathway Lead for Engagement for Life.

Calthorpe is a place where no two days are ever the same, the staff have brilliant relationships with learners and there’s always more to learn if you want to. There is a supportive network of people around you and there are opportunities for growth. Our academy and Trust’s strength has always been in its succession planning and planning forwards nurturing, supporting and coaching future teachers and leaders.

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