

CEO Briefing

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nexus
Multi Academy Trust
Learning together to be the best we can be

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This time of year is always bittersweet, as we celebrate the achievements of our pupils; say goodbye to our leavers; and generally stagger to the finish line ready for a well-earned rest. Speaking of finish lines, I have to say that it was a privilege (and great fun) to present the medals at the end of our recent Trust Primary Olympics. This event happened at the request of our Pupil Cabinet, and it was amazing to see so many of our schools together in the sunshine. Huge thanks to **Jacky Tattershall**, **Jill Newbolt** and **all our school sports leads** who made the event such a success. I can't wait for next year's!

A month doesn't pass by without our schools receiving recognition for their achievements, and in the last month alone **Abbey School** has received the **Quality in Careers Standard Award**, a 2-year accreditation that has come from the amazing work of **Liz Shimwell** and #TeamAbbey. **Pennine View School** has been recognised as "**most innovative provision**" at the South Yorkshire Careers Hub "Leading the Way" awards, thanks to the hard work of **Carl Cousins** and the team at PV.

Becton School has been awarded the **Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools 'School Mental Health Award' – Gold Status**, which builds on the school's previous accreditation, thanks to the hard work of **Karon Ransom** and the whole Becton team. **Craggs Community School** has been awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award, thanks to the work of our staff and pupils, led by **Michael Kenny**. And finally, **Fountaindale School** is now a **Silver Accredited Rights Respecting School (UNICEF)**, which is yet another indicator of the strides our school continues to make under the leadership of **Luci Windle** and **Chris Evans**.

I'm sure there are other achievements that I've not shared here, but these just give a flavour of the passion and ambition that unites our schools. Also in June, Nexus MAT - with Abbey as lead school - was appointed as the national special school lead for the DfE's flagship **Flexible Working Ambassador programme**, which **Joanna Hedge** will lead for us. This is a hugely positive statement reflecting our credibility and capacity to lead a national change programme with schools from Lands Ends to the Scottish border.

I'd like to use this briefing to thank **Catherine Hall** and **Angham Ahmed** for their service as Members of the Trust. Both Catherine and Angham step down at the end of August. I cannot overstate my gratitude to Catherine and Angham for their willingness to hold the role: our Trust will be forever in their debt.

At the same time as saying goodbye, I'd like to welcome **Seamus Oates CBE** and **Rachel Potts** as new Members, who will start in role in September. I'd also like to welcome **Leanne Camaish**, who will join us as Headteacher at Pennine View in September, and **Joanne Cliff**, who will complete our team of Executive Assurance Partners in September too. Both Leanne and Joanne bring a wealth of school leadership experience with them and will make our Trust better.

Finally, have a truly wonderful, restful summer break, one and all. Thank you all for everything you've done over the last 11 months.

Warren
Warren Carratt

Spotlight on the Trust Team...

In this briefing, we're focusing on... our Executive Headteacher of Becton School, **James Gibson** and **one of** our Executive Primary Leads, **Claire Garbutt**.



James started his teaching career as Chemistry Teacher at Netherthorpe School in Chesterfield in 2003. James worked there for 11 years having a variety of roles, however he quickly realised his passion for working with pupils who needed extra support and eventually James became a 'Head of Year'.

After 5 Years of Being a Head of Year James took the decision to leave Netherthorpe and mainstream education and applied to be Assistant Headteacher and later Deputy Headteacher for Teaching and Learning at Sheffield Inclusion Centre. Here James worked with permanently excluded pupils ranging from ages of 6 to 16.

In January of 2018 James took up his position of Headteacher at Becton School. Since then the school has changed dramatically, growing from 60 pupils to finishing 2022 with over 220. James is very committed to ensuring that all Children have access to education that supports their medical and SEND needs. He has also been recently appointed to the Headteacher Reference Group to support the DfE with future policy making and is also a director of the National Association of Hospital Education.

Claire has worked in Education for over 20 years and has held positions in mainstream schools as Early Years lead, SENDCo, and various senior leadership roles including Executive headteacher in a growing trust.



During her career Claire has coached and mentored staff at various levels in their development from ITT to senior leaders and is actively engaged in facilitation of the National Professional Qualifications.

Claire has worked effectively and contributed to professional development provision on behalf of numerous Higher Education Institutions for many years, concentrating on initial teacher training and mentoring. Claire has been instrumental in devising structures and systems within Learners First Schools Partnership to support and enhance the training experience of early career professionals and has been integral in supporting the ongoing development of teachers in the formative years of their career.

Claire holds numerous governance roles across primary, secondary and special school settings which certainly keeps her busy! Also keeping her busy are a husband, 2 daughters, Floppy the rabbit, Sid the sausage dog and Meeko, the newly recruited bearded dragon! Claire is excited and inspired by her new role within Nexus multi-academy trust. She is looking forward to developing her professional knowledge further and to working alongside all new colleagues within the Trust.

