

CE Briefing

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-24
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nexus
Multi Academy Trust
Learning together to be the best we can be

WED 7 DECEMBER

Season's greetings, one and all. The Christmas spirit is well and truly present across all our schools. I saw Father Christmas and Rudolph visiting Forest View yesterday, and there are lots of planned activities for our families and friends across all our schools' communities over the last two weeks of term. I'll be attending as many of these events as I can, but there's never enough time in the working day to be in all the places I'd like to be.

I'd like to start this briefing by say a huge **thank you** to one of our parent governors, Sam Crookes, who has made a donation to Kelford School of a whopping £1,137.73. Sam's son, Harry, attends Kelford and the proceeds came directly from the donations made at Harry's Grandad's funeral. Grandad (or Edad, as he was known) and Harry were best friends, and the family's decision to donate this money to our school is a reflection of the special relationship between Harry and his Grandad Edad, Fred Moody and, in turn, the bond that Harry has with Kelford School. Thank you so much for the donation, Sam!

It was so inspiring to see that some of our pupils at Craggs Community School visited the Royal Opera House yesterday to watch The Nutcracker. I'm sure that was some day out filled with joy and awe, and created memories that will last a lifetime. Speaking of memory making, we also had the world record breaking athlete Fatima Whitbread attend Abbey School on 16 November, when she visited as an ambassador of the Youth Sport Trust to celebrate the amazing work of Jill Newbolt and the whole #TeamAbbey community, given our work as a Lead Inclusion School. Blimey!

There is also some exciting - albeit bittersweet - news about leadership changes across our Trust. Firstly, I'm really happy to announce that Sarah Mulhall will become the permanent Headteacher of Kelford School from 1 January 2024. Sarah has been leading Kelford on an interim basis since March, and is an amazing school leader who will move our school from strength to strength. Sarah's move to Kelford has created a vacancy at Pennine View, and I'm really pleased to share that Carl Cousins has been appointed Headteacher. Carl is currently Deputy Head, and will start in the role of Headteacher after Easter, working with interim Headteacher Leanne Camaish on a handover through the spring term.

Luci Windle has taken the difficult decision to step away from her Executive Headteacher role at Fountindale School after Christmas, a post she has held since January 2022. Luci took on the role at a time when Fountindale (then called Harlow Academy) was at the lowest point I've ever seen any school. She threw herself into the challenge of (yet again) helping a school in dire straits, and I will be forever grateful for all she's done to turn things around so quickly. I'm delighted that Chris Evans will take over as Headteacher from 1 January 2024, supported by new Deputy Head Dan Machin and our new, incoming Assistant Head Charlotte Adu, by Easter.

Have a truly Merry Christmas, each and every one of you!

Warren
Warren Carratt

Abbey School

Becton School

Beech Academy

Coppice School

Craggs Community School

Discovery Academy

Fountindale
A SPECIAL SCHOOL

Heatherwood School

Hilltop School

Kelford School

Kenwood Academy

North Ridge Community School

Pennine View

The Willows School

Spotlight on the Trust Team...



In this briefing, we're focusing on... one of our **Co-Headteachers of Kenwood Academy**, Richard Hadfield, and our **Maths Consultant**, Emma Parker.



Richard Hadfield joined Nexus MAT and Becton School in Spring 2021, before becoming Co-Headteacher of Kenwood Academy in April 2023 after it de-amalgamated from Becton School. Richard leads Kenwood's Sheffield campuses, which have grown rapidly and currently includes provision for 130 students across 5 sites.

Richard's career in education started as an English teacher at Westfield School in Sheffield. Richard has been a school leader for 15 years, including Deputy Headship in Nottingham and Headship in Leeds, after achieving the National Postgraduate Qualification in Headship in 2017.

Richard has worked in primary settings, secondary settings, post-16 settings, all-through settings, alternative provision, and now – thanks to seeing the light and joining Nexus – special settings. Throughout his career, Richard has always been most passionate about inclusion and championing the learning and achievements of pupils who might otherwise be the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Richard lives in Sheffield with his wife and twin daughters, and three rascally cats – all of whom mean that there is never a dull moment. Outside of school, Richard enjoys family time, walking in the countryside, reading, watching films, and playing field hockey for a local team (for as long as his knees can last!). Richard loves working at Kenwood Academy as part of a wonderful community and an amazing team of staff.

Emma Parker is the Mathematics Consultant for the Trust. After earning her mathematics degree, she initially ventured into the insurance industry before embarking on her educational journey. Emma's dedication to teaching led her to spend 15 years as a mathematics teacher in various secondary mainstream schools. Over the last two years, she has taken on the role of mathematics lead at Bader Academy.



Emma's passion for mathematics is matched only by her deep appreciation for the privilege of working in special schools. Autism holds a special place in Emma's heart, making her transition to Bader Academy an opportunity to connect with remarkable young individuals. Although leaving Bader was a challenging decision, Emma has enthusiastically joined the central trust team as a mathematics consultant.

Outside of school, Emma lives in Doncaster with her husband, two children and Millie the chocolate Labrador. She loves long dog walks, particularly within the Peak District with her reluctant teenage children. Emma is a keen gardener and is enormously proud of her home-grown produce through the summer months. She has been attending beginner tap dancing lessons for a few years now but the fact that she remains within this class is indicative of her tap-dancing ability! A fact that few people know about Emma is that she once had a screen test to be a weather forecaster for the BBC in London.