

Alexandra Park Junior School and The Pinnacle Learning Trust

Meeting with Parents and Carers Monday 2nd October

Jayne Clarke - Executive Principal
Andrew Kilburn - Chair of Trust Board
Stewart Ash - Chief Financial Officer
Pamela McIlroy - Chief Operating Officer





Alexandra Park Junior School

To Learn, Be Happy and Achieve Our Best

Academy conversion and joining The Pinnacle Learning Trust

- What is The Pinnacle Learning Trust?
- Why will joining Pinnacle be good for Alexandra Park?
- How will Alexandra Park change?
- Next steps
- Questions and feedback



What is The Pinnacle Learning Trust?

- An Oldham-based, strong multi-academy trust
- Formed in September 2017 - Hathershaw and OSFC
- Werneth Primary School joined Feb 2019 and Broadfield Primary School joined in April 2023
- Schools retain their own identity and curriculum
- Strong financial health (separate school budgets retained)
- Responsive, effective and supportive central services teams
- Partnerships and professional development are key strengths
- EEF Research School status and a lead partner in the local Teaching School Hub
- Regional Science Centre



Vision and Mission

Vision

Our vision is of a high achieving and locally-focused Trust with academies in all phases of education. With an understanding of the proud and vibrant communities we serve and a rigorous culture of high aspirations and strong academic performance, our focus is on creating opportunities that are transformational, improving the life chances of all our young people.

Mission

We seek to achieve our vision with a relentless determination to show our students and others we support, both within and beyond our Trust what is possible by:

- Expecting excellence and achieving the highest standards for young people; encouraging them to have the highest aspirations for themselves
- Providing innovative training to staff so they are the best they can be
- Working collaboratively to ensure best practice across Trust schools and colleges and more widely so we continuously learn from one another
- Building a portfolio of experiences and network of partners to enrich students' experiences
- Providing a strong central services offer to allow leaders and teachers to focus on education.

Why will joining Pinnacle be good for Alexandra Park?

- Shared values and supportive, successful approach
- Local Trust - all phases
- Strong track record of school improvement and positive outcomes for pupils
- Opportunity to work more closely with local primary colleagues
- Professional development focused on teaching and learning, helping to further improve standards and outcomes for all pupils
- Trust support - 'behind the scenes' - finances, estates, HR, IT - helping to provide a strength and stability so that staff at the school can focus on supporting pupils' achievements and enjoyment of school
- Existing partnerships - Hathershaw sports partnership, OSFC Science Centre
- Additional opportunities for pupils and staff
- Links with Hathershaw and OSFC for pupils' progression
- Admissions policy at Hathershaw - subject to consultation

How will Alexandra Park change?

- Very little, and only in positive ways
- The school will continue to have the same look and feel as far as pupils, parents and the local community are concerned
- We will work together to support the school with its improvement plans
- There will be some changes ‘behind the scenes’ in finance, HR, payroll, etc., all of which should become more responsive and efficient
- The Governing Body will become a ‘Local Governing Body’ within the Trust structure (which includes an overarching Trust Board)
- Longer term benefits through working in partnership across the Trust, opportunities to work with primary colleagues at Broadfield and Werneth, improving outcomes, improved transition between phases, and closer links with Hathershaw and OSFC
- Joint procurement (‘buying power’) through being part of the Trust, meaning better value for money.

Joining our Trust - next steps

- Working towards 1st April 2024
- Providing support every step of the way, through transition and beyond
- Legal and HR support
- Due diligence
- Department for Education (DfE) support, including funding support
- Working group (Governors/Trustees and staff)
- Discussions with staff, collectively and individually
- TUPE process with staff
- Transfer and funding agreements (estates, contracts, liabilities, assets)
- DfE Trust School Improvement Offer (in place from this term)
- Integration of systems - training and support
- Minimising impact on day to day work



Thank you for listening
Any questions or feedback?

Jayne Clarke

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