

Great Heights Academy Trust

BUSINESS PLAN 2021-2022 Executive Summary

Achieving excellence together



Happy Successful Children

Happy successful children are at the heart of everything we do, which is why we strive to provide collaborative networks and bespoke professional learning in order to ensure we can all support the needs and challenges faced by each of our academies.

Vision and Values

Our Trust vision has school improvement at its heart that will benefit all children in Trust schools.

We aim to:

- Develop an effective partnership of schools that share a commitment to raising standards
- Strengthen the partnership by valuing the uniqueness of each school and expecting all schools to contribute
- Foster relationships based on mutual respect with a balance of autonomy and accountability
- Share expertise – both best practice and best practitioners
- Develop all teachers and leaders through effective professional development.

Reasons to join our Trust

“As we build back better from the pandemic, multi-academy trusts have the capacity to provide the best training and evidence-based curriculum support for already great teachers, freeing them to focus on what they do best – teaching.”

Department for Education

The government recommends every school in the country be part of a strong MAT. Why should your school choose Great Heights Academy Trust?

We highlight three key reasons to join our MAT:

1. Develop great teachers

Building on the success of the Early Roll-out programme, and launching in schools nationwide from September, we are an approved provider of UCL's Early Career Framework (ECF) - a two-year government funded programme designed to support newly qualified teachers and their mentors.

In partnership with the University of Huddersfield, our training programme, AA Teamworks SCITT, offers trainees the opportunity to learn through an established Initial Teacher Education (ITE) Partnership - ensuring the best possible support and education.

We also provide access to leadership expertise from our own School Improvement Team, including specialist leaders from our DfE designated English Hub and Research School. With an additional new to Headship internal programme offer.

2. Staff Retention

Supporting career pathways at all levels, we provide training and support to senior, middle and future leaders through bespoke coaching and mentoring, network groups for curriculum leaders, key provision focus areas and management teams, and access to research informed professional development.

3. Collaboration

We empower subject leaders to plan together and exchange schemes of work and best practice, and staff to share lesson planning, approaches to assessment, coaching to improve practice, and inquiry-based research.

Our audits and peer reviews help identify strengths and areas for development to best shape curriculum offers as well as providing increased power to negotiate services and gain better value.

Our Vision and Values Statement:

The Great Heights Academy Trust strives to always provide an inspirational, positive and welcoming environment where there is a sense of pride and fun and where everyone works together with confidence, enthusiasm and mutual respect.

We aim to nurture academic, personal, spiritual and social development in a caring and professional manner so that all achieve their full potential and all can reach GREAT heights.

We are always keen to welcome new partnerships into our Trust. Please contact us or any of our academies if you wish to talk to staff about their experience of the Trust.

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Amanda Bennett OBE, Trust CEO & NLE



We are a growing MAT with an impressive network of partnerships and in-house designations which share our vision and values.

This business plan sets the high expectations which all our stakeholders have to ensure all in our care can be supported on their improvement journey.

Following our designation as a sponsor over 5 years ago, we have grown in our capacity to support and challenge each other in order that our children and families have equality of provision. Our strong multi-designated offers from our SCITT, Research School and English Hub are uniquely positioned within our MAT and so provide readily accessible expertise and capacity which is the major core school improvement business offer.

Strong local and national partnerships alongside engagement in initiatives and developments with the DfE and the EEF offer our schools the added benefit of bespoke offers. These can accurately and effectively target needs and developments in order that all in our care can access lifelong learning opportunities and aspire to reach their true potential.

This business plan details the necessary vision and 'road map' offers accessible to all schools seeking bespoke school improvement support within our Trust and those interested in joining us. The plan is the start of further collaborative working and a pledge to those whom we engage with.



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WEST YORKSHIRE SCITT

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