

Summer 26



Welcome from the CEO



As we come to the end of another busy and successful year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the remarkable achievements across our Trust. Whether in classrooms, through performances, enrichment activities, examinations, or simply in the countless everyday moments that help our young people grow and thrive, there is so much to be proud of.

What stands out most is not just what we have achieved, but how we have achieved it. Across Admiral Lord Nelson, Trafalgar and Mayfield, our values of Community, Aspiration and Inclusion continue to shine through. We see them in the way colleagues support one another, in the determination of our students to be their best, and in our commitment to ensuring that every child feels they belong and can succeed.

This newsletter captures just a small snapshot of the dedication, talent and kindness that exist across our schools each day. Thank you to our staff, students, families and governors for everything you do to make Salterns Academy Trust such a special community. Together, we

continue to deliver on our vision of providing an excellent and inclusive educational experience that prepares our students for the world of tomorrow.

I hope you enjoy reading about the many successes and celebrations from across the Trust

Celebrating a Positive Ofsted Outcome for Admiral Lord Nelson School

We are delighted to share the outcome of the recent Ofsted inspection at Admiral Lord Nelson School, which judged the school to be meeting the new *Expected Standard* across all areas of the inspection framework, with safeguarding also confirmed as fully effective.



This inspection took place under Ofsted's renewed framework, which has moved away from a single overall effectiveness judgement. Instead, inspectors now evaluate schools across a range of areas including achievement, attendance and behaviour, curriculum and teaching, inclusion, leadership and governance, and personal development and wellbeing. Schools are assessed against four possible standards: Exceptional, Strong, Expected Standard and Needs Attention. Admiral Lord Nelson School achieved the Expected Standard in every area inspected, demonstrating that the school is delivering the quality of education, care and leadership expected nationally.

The report contains many positive comments about the school and its community. Inspectors found that students benefit from a rich and ambitious curriculum that prepares them well for life beyond school and that they enjoy learning and value the expertise of their teachers. They also highlighted the school's inclusive and supportive culture and noted that Students want to come to school and feel that they belong.

This outcome is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of staff, leaders, governors, trustees, pupils and families. It also demonstrates the strength of the collaborative improvement work taking place across Salterns Academy Trust.

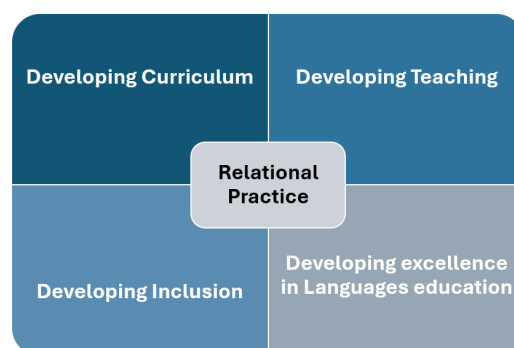
Looking ahead, both Trafalgar School and Mayfield School are expected to receive Ofsted visits during the next academic year. We welcome these opportunities to showcase the excellent work taking place across our schools and to continue learning from external review. Our focus

remains firmly on providing an ambitious, inclusive and high-quality education for every child, while continuously striving to improve outcomes and opportunities for all.

Congratulations to everyone at Admiral Lord Nelson School on this positive outcome and on the recognition of the caring, ambitious and inclusive culture that sits at the heart of the school

Delivering School Improvement Together

At Salterns Academy Trust, we believe that school improvement is not something that happens to schools – it is something we achieve together. Our approach to school improvement includes a clear and ambitious approach to ensuring every child across our Trust receives an excellent and inclusive education, rooted in our values of Inclusion, Community and Aspiration. The strategy is built around four key areas: developing curriculum, developing teaching, developing inclusion, and developing excellence in languages education. These workstreams provide a coherent framework for improvement while recognising the unique character and strengths of each of our schools.



A central feature of our approach is the leadership role of our Headteachers and senior leaders. They will continue to drive improvement within their own schools while also contributing their expertise across the Trust through collaborative leadership groups, quality assurance activities and professional development programmes. This ensures that effective practice is shared, leadership capacity is strengthened and improvement is embedded in day-to-day school life rather than being seen as a separate initiative.

The Trust also recognises the value of expert external support. Alongside the wealth of expertise within our own schools, we will continue to work with trusted school improvement partners to provide independent challenge, specialist advice and access to wider professional networks. We have formed Partnerships for 26-27 with The Restorative Lab, HISP Multi-Academy Trust and Maths Teaching Solutions. These partnerships help ensure that our

improvement work remains evidence-informed, rigorous and focused on achieving the best outcomes for students.

Most importantly, this strategy reflects our belief that improvement is strongest when schools collaborate, staff learn together and every child is supported to succeed regardless of their starting point. By combining strong school leadership, Trust-wide collaboration and expert external support, we are creating the conditions for continuous improvement across all our schools and ensuring that every young person can thrive.

One Journey Ends, Another Begins

As another academic year draws to a close, we would like to take a moment to celebrate and thank our Year 11 students across Salterns Academy Trust as they prepare for the next stage of their journey.

For many, this summer marks the end of five years of learning, growth and personal development. Along the way they have achieved academic success, embraced new opportunities, overcome challenges and contributed enormously to the life of their schools. Whether through the classroom, sport, the arts, leadership roles, enrichment activities or simply the kindness and support they have shown others, they leave behind a legacy of which they should be immensely proud.











On behalf of everyone across Admiral Lord Nelson School, Trafalgar School, Mayfield School and the wider Trust, we wish our Year 6 and 11 leavers every success for the future. We hope they leave with confidence, ambition and a belief in their ability to achieve great things. Most importantly, we hope they carry with them the values that sit at the heart of our Trust – Inclusion, Community and Aspiration.

At the same time, we are looking forward to welcoming a new cohorts students in September in both secondary and primary Starting any new school is a significant milestone, bringing excitement, opportunities and perhaps a few nerves too. Our staff are already preparing to

ensure that every new student receives a warm welcome and the support they need to settle quickly into school life.

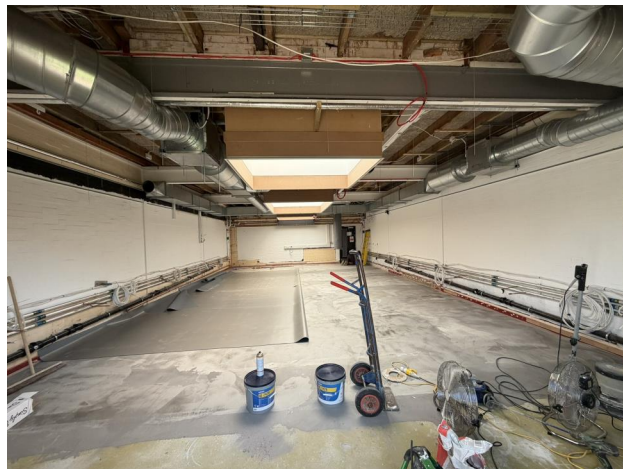
As a Trust, we believe every child deserves an excellent education and the opportunity to thrive. We are proud of the caring and inclusive communities that exist across all of our schools, and we know that all our new students will soon become valued members of those communities.

To our Year 6 and 11 leavers: thank you, good luck and stay in touch. To our new students: welcome to the next chapter of your educational journey. We cannot wait to see what you will achieve.

Building Better Spaces for Learning

This summer marks an exciting new chapter for Trafalgar School as significant investments are made to enhance both the learning environment and the facilities available to students and staff.

A major highlight is the creation of a brand-new Food Technology classroom, providing students with access to a modern, purpose-built learning space that will support the development of practical life skills, creativity and a passion for food and nutrition. The new facility will enable the school to further enhance curriculum delivery and create inspiring learning experiences for current and future students.





Alongside this, the school's PE facilities are also being upgraded, creating improved spaces that will support high-quality physical education, sport and wellbeing activities. These developments will provide students with even greater opportunities to develop confidence, teamwork, resilience and healthy lifestyles.



These projects form part of the Trust's ongoing commitment to developing its schools and ensuring that young people learn in environments that reflect the ambition we have for their futures. By creating high-quality facilities that support both academic and personal development, we are helping to ensure that every student has access to the opportunities they need to thrive.

We are incredibly excited about what these improvements will bring for the Trafalgar community and look forward to welcoming students experiencing these fantastic new facilities for themselves in the next academic year .

Opening Doors to Opportunity

This term, students from across Salterns Academy Trust took part in our annual Cambridge University visit. The trip brought together students from across the Trust's Schools, giving them the opportunity to experience one of the world's most prestigious universities first-hand.

The visit is designed to raise aspirations and help students see that higher education, including universities such as Cambridge and Oxford, is within reach for young people from all backgrounds. By exploring the colleges, meeting admissions staff and learning more about university life, students gained a clearer understanding of the application process and the wide range of opportunities available to them.











Students were able to experience the unique collegiate system, discover world-class learning facilities and explore subjects and degree pathways that they may not have previously considered. Walking through the historic colleges and seeing student life in action helped bring university study to life in a way that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom.

The trip forms part of the Trust's commitment to community, aspiration and inclusion by supporting our students to have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Experiences such as these help broaden horizons, challenge perceptions and inspire students to think ambitiously about their future education and careers.

Remembering the Past and Strengthening International Friendships

One of the most memorable events of the Summer term was a delegation of Trust students visiting Caen for the annual D-Day commemorations. Students from across the Trust proudly represented their schools and city while honouring the sacrifices made during the Second World War and celebrating the enduring friendship between Portsmouth and its twin city of Caen.

Students delivered outstanding performances of both national anthems, *God Save the King* and *La Marseillaise*, before performing the moving hymn *O Valiant Heart*. A particularly poignant moment saw students from Portsmouth and Caen join together with a British soldier to perform a recitation of the poem *Pourquoi?*, symbolising the power of languages to unite people across borders and generations.

Beyond the ceremony itself, the visit provided students with invaluable opportunities to interact with French peers, develop their intercultural understanding and witness first-hand the importance of remembrance and international cooperation. Their exemplary conduct and maturity were praised throughout the visit and reflected the values of the Salterns Trust and Portsmouth's wider educational community.





Solent Languages Network - A Summer Term of Languages, Culture and Collaboration

This summer term has been an exceptionally successful and rewarding one for the Solent Languages Network, working in partnership with Portsmouth, City of Languages. Through a programme of professional development, international collaboration, cultural enrichment and careers education, we have continued to champion the value of language learning across

Portsmouth and the wider South Coast. These events have brought together teachers, students, researchers, employers and international partners, all united by a shared belief that languages open doors to opportunity, understanding and global citizenship.

Strengthening the Languages Community Through Professional Development

Our summer programme began with a collaborative CPD event delivered in partnership with the ALL Portsmouth Primary Hub, Portsmouth Local Authority Network Leads and the Solent Languages Network. Under the theme *"Together We Are Stronger"*, the event brought together primary and secondary colleagues to explore current research and practical classroom strategies designed to improve language learning outcomes.

Delegates heard from leading researchers Alison Porter, Suzanne Graham and Rowena Kasprowicz, who shared findings from large-scale national studies investigating progression in primary language learning and the impact of digital technology on language teaching. Their work highlighted the importance of effective pedagogy, curriculum planning and whole-school support in enabling students to make sustained progress in languages.

The second session, led by respected languages consultant Jonathan Mumford, focused on pupil engagement and offered practical, research-informed strategies to increase participation, motivation and success in the languages classroom. Colleagues left with ideas they could immediately implement to support learners across all key stages.

Opening Doors Through Languages and Careers

The term also saw students attend the Goethe-Institut Careers Roadshow at the University of Portsmouth, an inspiring event designed to demonstrate the wide-ranging opportunities available to young people with language skills. The roadshow featured workshops, careers talks, interpretation and translation sessions, university taster experiences and a careers fair.

Students learned about careers in tourism, journalism, international business, sustainability, translation and interpreting, as well as the benefits of studying abroad and working internationally. They had the opportunity to hear directly from language professionals, university staff, employers and current students, helping them to understand how languages can enhance future study and employment prospects.

Events such as these play a crucial role in challenging misconceptions about language learning and showing students that linguistic skills are highly valued in a global economy. The experience reinforced a powerful message: languages are not only subjects in school, but lifelong skills that can open doors to exciting opportunities around the world.



Bringing the Joy Back into Language Learning

The culmination of the summer term was the Solent Languages Network Conference, hosted at Admiral Lord Nelson School in partnership with Portsmouth, City of Languages. Under the theme *"Let's Get Creative and Bring the Joy Back into Languages Learning"*, the conference welcomed language educators from across the South Coast and beyond for a day of inspiration, professional learning and collaboration.

The conference was opened by Steven Fawkes, Co-President of the Association for Language Learning, before delegates were welcomed by Nys Hardingham, CEO of Salterns Trust, alongside student performances that showcased the confidence and creativity nurtured through language learning.

An outstanding programme of speakers explored a wide range of themes linked to motivation, engagement and creativity. Kathryn Broom from the University of Southampton examined how learners can develop a vision of themselves as future language users, while Sandra Ober shared innovative approaches to curriculum sequencing that improve confidence and participation. Jonathan Mumford provided practical strategies for formative assessment and classroom

The afternoon continued with inspiring sessions from Marie Massé and Michaël Vidon, who demonstrated how creative approaches such as storytelling, craft, poetry and rap can transform language learning experiences and foster greater learner engagement.

The conference also featured a presentation entitled "*Opening Doors: Using Cultural Trips to Inspire Collaboration and Global Learning*", delivered by Salterns Trust Languages Directors Aamir Kohli and Rebecca Britti alongside Dr Julio Carrillo, Turing and Erasmus+ Coordinator at HSDC College. The session explored how international partnerships, educational visits and global mobility programmes can enrich language learning and broaden opportunities for young people.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback from delegates reflected the strength of the languages community across the region and our shared commitment to ensuring that language learning remains vibrant, relevant and inspiring for future generations.





Solent Languages Network Conference!



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Solent Languages Network
Conference!



Solent Languages Network
Conference!





Looking Ahead

Before looking ahead to next year's programme, we encourage colleagues, students and families to listen to the Portsmouth City of Languages song, a celebration of multilingualism, cultural understanding and the diverse communities that make our city such a vibrant place to live and learn: https://youtu.be/0y5_hrZpZzo?si=5ZyhN4QyUgtFxohw

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we are excited to build on this year's success with an ambitious programme of events already in development. On Monday 5th October 2026, we will be hosting a Languages at Work Day, bringing together primary and secondary students to explore the diverse range of careers that language skills can unlock. This will be followed by our next joint professional development event with the ALL Portsmouth Primary Hub and Portsmouth City of Languages on Wednesday 7th October 2026, continuing our commitment to supporting language teachers through high-quality, collaborative CPD.

We are particularly excited about our annual Celebrating Languages Week, which will take place from Monday 15th – Friday 19th March 2027. The week will feature a wide range of activities, competitions, cultural events and educational visits, including opportunities such as the Festival of Culture at the University of Portsmouth, all designed to showcase the value and enjoyment of language learning.

Alongside these flagship events, further trips, international opportunities, enrichment activities and professional learning events are already being planned for schools across the region. Together with our partners at Portsmouth City of Languages, we remain committed to creating meaningful opportunities that inspire young people, support educators and ensure that languages continue to flourish across Portsmouth, the Solent region and beyond. We look

forward to welcoming even more schools, teachers and students to join us as we continue to grow and strengthen our vibrant languages community.

Primary Update

As we reach the end of another successful year in Primary, it is hard to believe just how much has been packed into the final few weeks. It has been an extremely busy time for both students and staff, with plenty of achievements and memorable experiences to celebrate.

Our younger students recently completed their Phonics Screening Check, while Year 4 students took part in the Multiplication Tables Check. We were incredibly proud of how confidently all students approached these assessments. Their enthusiasm and determination reflected the hard work they have put in throughout the year, and they should all be congratulated for their efforts!







One of the highlights of the term was undoubtedly the Year 6 residential visit to PGL Marchants Hill. Pupils enjoyed an action-packed adventure, challenging themselves and developing their teamwork skills through a range of exciting activities. From abseiling, archery and fencing, to climbing and flying through the air on the zip wire, there was never a dull moment! As you can imagine, there was plenty of excitement and not very much sleep, but the smiles, laughter and lasting memories made it an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

We were also delighted to welcome award-winning author Corrinne Averiss to school, where she spent time with our Year 1. Corrinne shared the story behind how her celebrated book *Moon Mouse* came to life, explaining the creative journey from initial idea to finished publication. Her message about imagination, perseverance and believing in your ideas was truly inspiring and encouraged our students and others from local schools to see themselves as future writers, illustrators and storytellers.

June also brought an exciting opportunity to welcome the families of our newest cohort of children, who will be joining us in Year R this September. It was wonderful to meet them and begin building the strong partnerships needed as their children start their school journey. Across the Primary phase, all students also enjoyed transition days with their new classmates and teachers, helping them feel confident, excited and well prepared for the new academic year ahead.

As this academic year draws to a close, we will be saying a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to a number of valued members of staff who are moving on to new opportunities, both locally and internationally! Their contributions to our school community have been significant, and we wish them every success and happiness in the next stage of their careers. At the same time, we are delighted to be welcoming new members to both our teaching and support staff teams in September, and we look forward to the fresh ideas and expertise they will bring.

Although arriving a little later in the term than usual, our Primary Sports Day was certainly worth the wait! The event was wonderfully attended by families, whose enthusiastic support helped create a fantastic atmosphere throughout the day. Students demonstrated great determination, teamwork and sportsmanship as they took part in a variety of races and activities, while also enjoying the opportunity to cheer on their classmates. It was a joy to see so many smiles, celebrations and moments of encouragement, making the day a memorable highlight of the summer term. Thank you to all the families who joined us and helped make the event such a success.

Finally, a huge thank you to our entire Primary Team and to all our families for your dedication, support and loyalty throughout the year. The successes we celebrate are only possible because of strong partnerships between home and school, and we are incredibly grateful for the commitment shown by our community.

Work Experience: A World of Opportunity

This year, hundreds of Year 10 students across Salterns Academy Trust stepped beyond the classroom and into the workplace, gaining invaluable experience that is helping to shape their future ambitions. Students undertook placements across a wide range of industries and organisations, from education, healthcare and community services to construction, engineering, retail, hospitality, media and the public sector. Some students even completed placements overseas, giving them the opportunity to experience different working environments and broaden their horizons on an international scale.

The impact of these placements has been significant. Employers consistently praised our students for their enthusiasm, professionalism, reliability and willingness to learn. Many were commended for the confidence and maturity they demonstrated in unfamiliar environments, while others impressed so much that they secured part-time employment opportunities or began conversations about future apprenticeship pathways.







Work Experience sits at the heart of our careers education programme. It helps students make meaningful connections between their learning in school and the opportunities available beyond it, developing the knowledge, skills and confidence needed for future success. Whether working with local businesses, community organisations, national employers or undertaking placements abroad, students gain first-hand insight into the world of work and the many pathways open to them.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback received this year is a testament to the ambition, character and potential of young people across our Trust and is a powerful example of our values in action. It brings together aspiration, inclusion and community, helping young people see what is possible while building the confidence to pursue it. From local workplaces to international placements, our students have embraced new challenges, represented their schools with pride and returned with a stronger sense of who they are and who they could become.

We are incredibly grateful to the employers, families and community partners who supported this year's programme. Their commitment provides meaningful opportunities for our students to explore their aspirations, build confidence and take important first steps towards their future careers.

One Week, Endless Possibilities

As another academic year draws to a close, students across Mayfield and Trafalgar Schools have enjoyed an outstanding programme of trips, activities and enrichment experiences, making lasting memories and showcasing the very best of our Trust community.

From overseas adventures and residential visits to exciting day trips and inspiring activities closer to home, hundreds of students embraced opportunities to explore new places, develop new skills and challenge themselves in different ways. At Mayfield, students took part in residential visits across the UK and Europe, alongside a huge range of day trips and on-site experiences. Trafalgar students enjoyed a similarly packed programme, including Year 7 camp, international visits, local attractions and specialist workshops that encouraged creativity, teamwork and confidence.













What made the week so special was not simply the destinations or activities, but the way our students approached every opportunity. Whether working together on outdoor challenges, experiencing different cultures, developing new talents or stepping beyond their comfort zones, students demonstrated the Trust values of Inclusion, Aspiration and Community at every turn. They supported one another, embraced new experiences and showed the confidence and resilience that help young people thrive.

Activities Week is always a highlight of the school year, and 2026 was no exception. It was a celebration of learning beyond the classroom, of friendship, adventure and personal growth, made possible by the dedication of staff who worked tirelessly to create such a wide range of opportunities. As we look ahead to the new academic year, we can reflect with pride on a week filled with achievement, laughter, discovery and memories that will stay with our students for years to come

History Ambassadors Explore the Legacy of Admiral Lord Nelson School

ALNS History Subject Ambassadors Perry and Isaac recently had the unique opportunity to delve into the history of Admiral Lord Nelson School as part of preparations for the upcoming Portsmouth 100 exhibition at Portsmouth City Museum.



Joined by former Headteacher and founding leader Dianne Smith and former teacher and current Governor Jane Beecher, the students conducted an insightful interview exploring the school's early years, how its ethos has evolved over time, and the significance of the visit by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II when the school first opened. The visitors also shared a fascinating collection of historical artefacts, including the original visitor book signed by Queen Elizabeth II and photographs from her visit, some of which will feature in the exhibition.

The Portsmouth 100 exhibition is due to open in late October, and the project is providing an exciting opportunity for our History Ambassadors to help preserve and celebrate the school's rich heritage.

Governor Vacancies

Becoming a school governor is a great way to make a lasting impact to the lives of young people in our community. As a school governor, you'll have the opportunity to contribute your skills, experience, and passion to help shape the direction and policies of our schools. Whether you're a parent, a professional, or a community member, your involvement as a governor will help make positive change and help to ensure that our schools provide the best possible learning environment for our students. Join us as a school governor and become an integral part of building a brighter future for our children and our society as a whole.

To find out more about our current vacancies please contact clerk.alns@salterns.org



We welcome your feedback on anything contained in this newsletter or on any matters related to the Trust or its schools.

In addition to the usual channels of communication you may already use, feedback can be provided by clicking in the following link and completing this form.

[feedback form](#)



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