



Salterns Academy Trust

Salterns Academy Trust Newsletter

Issue 2 - Summer 2023

Welcome from the CEO



Welcome to the summer 2023 edition of our Trust newsletter. It has certainly been an exciting time for the Trust over the past term and as we approach the end of another academic year, please do take a moment feel a sense of pride in your role in making this a truly successful year for us all!

Having developed into a Trust of two thriving and successful schools some years ago, in 2021 the newly formed Trust Executive team worked with Trustees to develop a Trust Growth Strategy and spent the next two years readying the Trust for growth in the third year of the plan, which is this academic year. Salterns Trust leaders chose to undertake a range of partnership working, including with two strong multi-academy trusts, within the Portsmouth Education Partnership and working with the DfE to build on our strong local and national reputation for excellence in inclusive education and for our collaborative approaches. You

can see that excellence shining through in the areas we have selected to celebrate with you (of the many that take place every day in our two amazing schools!) in this edition.

Having the privilege of being your CEO, I want to thank all our staff, students, parents, and volunteers for your hard work every day in making this a great place for everyone to learn and flourish together.

Mayfield School set to join the Salterns Academy Trust

We were delighted that the Department for Education has selected Salterns Academy Trust as the preferred Trust to take on Mayfield school, and since that announcement the Trust leadership team, our school leaders and Mayfield leaders have been working hard to undertake the necessary steps to successfully bring the school into our trust.

Our Trust vision is that all children have the right to an excellent inclusive education, and we are working closely with the leadership team at Mayfield to create plans for school improvement. We thank all those members of the community that provided feedback in our recent surveys this has been invaluable in helping us develop these plans.

We continue to work towards a speedy academy conversion for Mayfield School (the point at which the school formally join the trust) ,and the education leaders from Trafalgar School and Admiral Lord Nelson School are already working collaboratively with Mayfield staff and leadership to support the delivery of high quality education and to share best practice with one another. Next term, Trust leaders will be preparing the trust to transition into its next phase as a trust of three large schools in the north of Portsmouth, drawing upon the existing strengths of the Trust and Mayfield School.

Salterns Trust Schools recognised for excellence in languages

Admiral Lord Nelson School has been recognised for its long term commitment to inclusive languages education with over 80% of its students currently languages to GCSE level. in addition Trafalgar School has rapidly improved engagement in languages study over the past 6 years, Consequently our Trust Schools were invited to bid to become a DfE Languages Hub.

The National Consortium for Languages Education (*NCLE*) is working with the Institute Of Education at University College London to recruit up to 25 lead schools who will specialise in languages and support up to 105 partner schools in its first year in 2023. This will rise to 25 lead schools supporting 175 partner schools in 2024.



The lead schools will work with partner secondary schools and aim to improve languages learning from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3, as well as encouraging pupils aged 14-18 from all backgrounds to study languages through to Key Stage 5.

Schools will be supported in teaching a range of different languages, but there will also be a focus on increasing the learning of German, as part of this work.

We are delighted that the strong leadership of languages by Rebecca Britti and Aamir Kohli in our two schools has been recognised nationally and are hopeful that the bid will be successful and they will be able to share their passion for languages learning across the local region.

Delivering Excellence in Personal Development

Activities Week 2023

“My son absolutely loved it” Parent Feedback Survey

26th June – 30th June was a busy week for everyone at Trafalgar School as students and staff enjoyed our annual Activities Week. This year the offer was bigger and better than ever with over fifty trips and experiences offered to all students across the week.

“The variety and range of activities catering for all needs and financial situations were great. It’s so lovely to see the children build relationships with other children and staff - the children were very lucky to have this opportunity!” Parent Feedback survey.

A quarter of Trafalgar School students enjoyed a residential trip during Activities Week. For some this was in the UK at the New Forest, Thorpe Park or London and for some even further afield in Paris, Barcelona or Geneva. For those on day-trips, students were offered a wide range of choices. Students were able to experience Hamilton, A Comedy of Errors or The Lion King in London’s West End. For the more active, watersports, windsurfing and sailing taster days were on offer. London’s scientific landmarks were also on the menu, with students having opportunity to visit London’s Science Museum, the Maritime Museum and the Greenwich Observatory. For students wanting to stay closer to home, Marwell Zoo, Making Movies at Apple Southampton, PFC coaching or training for the day at Portsmouth Gymnastics Club were just some of the trips on offer.

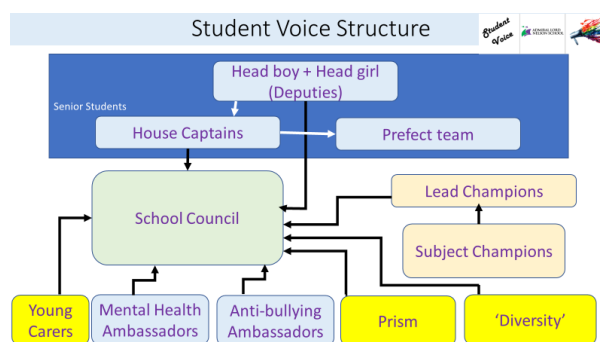
All activities encouraged students across all year groups to take part, supporting students in making new friends and enhancing our already thriving school community.







Empowering Student Leadership



A lot of work has been undertaken at Admiral Lord Nelson School this year to ensure a focus on student voice and improving the way the school council operates. School leaders recognise how important it is to develop a strong **sense of belonging** at school to empower students, support their wellbeing and to deepen their engagement with learning. The school council now involves a much larger number of pupils, with designated roles, designed to ensure the **student voice** is heard across the school. We have received some excellent ideas for changes across the school and amongst other things have :

- Trained 25 Anti Bullying Ambassadors and 25 Youth Mental Health Ambassadors as a result of the school council feedback to focus on these areas.
- Introduced recycling bins in every classroom - with a bin naming competition so that it raises engagement with the process
- Increased outside seating - with a new covered area in the front playground and more benches in the Quad in response to school council requests

The School Council has established 4 sub groups- Facilities and sustainability, Anti Bullying, Mental Health and Aspiration for all. These groups link into the School Council with reps from our PEM diversity group, our Prism (LGBTQ) group, young carers, Anti Bullying, Youth Mental Health Ambassadors and Subject Champions so that the leaderships are joined up and all voices are heard.

for more information visit the [school website](#)

Salterns Academy Trust at the Teach Portsmouth Awards 2023



We were proud to sponsor the Inclusion Award at the fifth annual Teach Portsmouth Awards this year. The Trust is committed to working collaboratively with all education partners to promote inclusive education across the city, continually developing our practice to ensure the best possible educational experience for all students.

The Teach Portsmouth Inclusion Award was presented by Nys Hardingham, the Trust CEO to **Anne Ormston from The Harbour School** who was recognised for being a passionate supporter of LGBTQ+ rights and being instrumental in creating a culture of celebrating and supporting inclusion within the school.



In addition to sponsoring the Inclusion Award a number of colleagues from Trafalgar School and Admiral Lord Nelson School were recognised for their achievements including

Camille Lahon of Admiral Lord Nelson School who won the **Early career teacher award**



This award recognises new teachers who have started in the past four years working in a Portsmouth school or college.

Camille joined the Admiral Lord Nelson School as an early career teacher in 2021. She is an immense force of positivity and energy. Camille has set up pen-pal links between ALNS and two schools in Normandy for year seven students

In addition Emma Roberts of Trafalgar school was shortlisted for the People's Choice award & Andrew Beecher of Admiral Lord Nelson School was shortlisted for the unsung hero award

It was not only teachers whose contributions were recognised as Jo Bennett , Chair of Governors at Trafalgar School was shortlisted for the Governors Award

Our congratulations go to all nominees and those shortlisted, as well as those who won awards on the evening.

More information on the Teach Portsmouth awards can be found on their [website](#)

Spotlight on Governance

As part of our drive for continual improvement of leadership, the Trust commissioned the National Governance Association to undertake an external review of its Governance in the summer term. This review involved both the Trust Board and the Local Governing Bodies and will inform a governance improvement plan to ensure that the work of the Governing bodies and the Trust Board is well aligned as they provide support and challenge to school leaders to provide the best possible learning experience for our students and our staff.

Effective Trust governance is essential to the successful operation of our schools and whilst the review found that the Trust *"has effective governance practices in place and a*

good understanding of its three core functions" the Trust recognises that there is always room for improvement in ensuring good Governance that focuses on the delivery of excellent inclusive education for all of our students.

More information about our governance can be found on the [Trust website](#)

Digital Update

The Trust IT team, working closely with the school based IT staff have been hard at work delivering a range of improvements to IT provision across both schools

Over the second half of the year both schools will benefit from Government "Connect the Classroom " funding and will be fully recabled with latest "cat 6a cabling". This work will support the installation of new wifi access points- enabling both schools to have access to the highest quality, fastest and most reliable internet access across the site.

In addition a number of IT suites will also be refreshed with new, more powerful and energy efficient computers to ensure delivery of high quality IT provision for our students .



As a Trust we have decided to change some of the key systems that manage and store student data - with the adoption of Arbor as the Trust's management information system . Parents of Students at Trafalgar school will continue to use Classcharts for interactions with the school, however ALNS parents and students will see a much bigger change in September. This new system will allow the Trust team to better monitor school outcomes and drive continual improvement across the curriculum , attendance and monitor behaviour, as well as being more cyber-secure. Alongside this we have been working on preparing to implement a new finance and accounting software system in the autumn term. We also intend to introduce digital solutions to further support our HR processes across the Trust during 2023/24.

A lot of work has been undertaken behind the scenes to improve the Trust's cyber security arrangements. Keeping our students' information secure is a key part of our safeguarding approach. We take data protection and cyber security very seriously and have invested heavily in responding to emerging threats and developing our layered approach as well as

providing ongoing training for staff. Coupled with effective data protection practice, we aim to keep all of our student, parent and staff data safe and secure.

We are also developing a Digital Strategy to provide a long term vision and road map for continual improvement in IT provision and education delivery as part of the wider [Portsmouth digital City](#) .Working with the Portsmouth Education Partnership it is our intention to play a leading role in improving digital literacy across the city. We will share more on this in future editions of the newsletter.

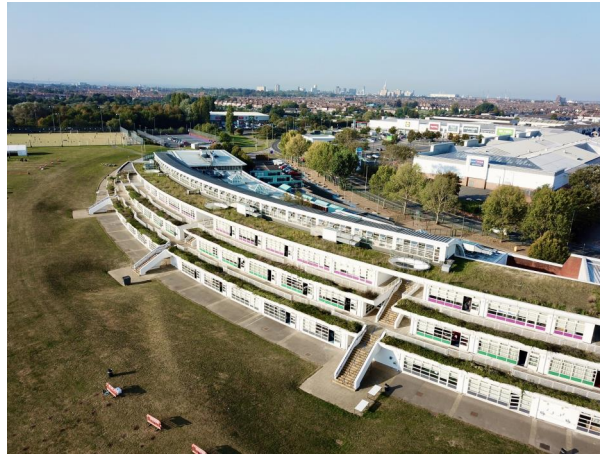
Estates Update

The summer is always a busy time for our Estates Teams , with lots of activity across all our sites to ensure our buildings and facilities are well maintained and improved to support the delivery of excellent inclusive education.

Work planned over the summer includes:

- New outdoor catering facility at ALNS
- New security fencing at Trafalgar School
- Upgraded CCTV at ALNS
- Installation of new energy efficient lighting and air conditioning units in both schools
- Classroom upgrades (new teacher walls, decoration and furniture etc) across both sites
- Repairs, painting and landscape works at both sites





In addition, the Trust is commissioning the installation of solar panels at both Trafalgar and Admiral Lord Nelson Schools. Not only will this reduce the Trust's energy bills, but it is estimated to also reduce the Trust's CO2 emissions by over 40 tonnes per year! It is expected that, subject to planning permission and surveys, the new solar arrays will be installed by summer 2024.

This work will be accompanied by other steps to reduce energy usage (such as ensuring devices, and lights etc are turned off at the end of the day or when not in use) as well as student-led activities such as recycling schemes.

PROVIDING AN EXCELLENT AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE THAT PREPARES OUR STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD OF TOMORROW.



Salterns Academy Trust,

c/o Admiral Lord Nelson School, Dundas Lane, Portsmouth PO3 5XT

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