



Gosforth Schools' Trust Annual Report



Chairman's Foreword

The purpose of Gosforth Schools' Trust is to deepen, extend and build the sustainability of the successful collaborative working that exists across the schools in Gosforth so as to expand educational opportunities for our children; raising their aspirations and to drive up standards across all our schools. Through our work to date we have provided a stronger local voice in response to national changes whilst at the same time we have ensured that we retain the unique identities within our schools.

The Trust was incorporated on the 17th March 2014, formally bringing together nine first schools, and two middle schools which form part of the Gosforth Pyramid of schools within the local education authority area of Newcastle City Council. We are an exempt charity regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. The Trust is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, operating through our Board of Directors.

It has been another productive year and I am pleased to report that our aim of deeper collaboration continues to develop. In a time of continuing uncertainty and unpredictability over education policy from Central Government, our Foundation gives us a degree of stability in our schools and the very tangible opportunity to gain further educational benefits from collaboration. This past year Directors have received presentations on how collaboration is enhancing our educational offer in some key subject areas such as Maths, English and SEN.

We will continue to face many challenges in the future including the continuing pressure on school budgets, changes to the curriculum and pupil assessment. The work of the Trust and the support from the Board and our Foundation Governors will enable us to meet these challenges in a positive way ensuring that we are delivering the best education for our pupils within Gosforth Schools' Trust.

George Snaith

Lead Trust Admin Report

The activities related to the formal governance of the Trust were all completed on time and in line with the guidance we received. Our information with Companies House is up to date and our accounts have been approved and are now a public record.

Trust schools continue to benefit from joint training and curriculum development working groups across core and foundation subjects. The work of these groups is supported by nationally accredited consultants.

A current focus on SEN provision and the possibility of capital funding through a joint bid for a shared SEN project is underway and should enable the Trust to seek further efficiencies.

The Trust actively seeks opportunities to establish effective partnerships with organisations from all sectors who share the vision and values of the Trust.



GST School Council Report

Each school has two pupils who have been chosen to represent their own school on the GST Trust Council. Staff and children meet each term to develop school to school working and to collaborate on joint projects. The Trust Council also takes a lead on the Trust's work with local charities. During the year, the new trust councilors have met to find ways more ways of working together in the future.

We have all set up suggestions boxes in our schools so that other children from across the GST can help us to think of ways to work together and support charities in our communities.

This year, the Trust Councilors decided to lead the Science Week work across the Trust and met to try new activities and share them with all of our schools so that each school could focus on the same activities during the week. This was a great success and resulted in all schools trying new things and sharing their best ideas!

We will continue to have our termly meetings so that we can share ideas and work together for our school communities and the Gosforth Community.

We are planning to publish an electronic report about the GST and all of our schools in the coming year.

Many of our schools are also taking part in the Greggs Cancer Run in the summer term. We will also continue to involve lots of children from our schools in the Gosforth Gets Going fortnight.



Supporting Daft as a Brush

We have continued to work with Daft as a Brush. The ambulances have visited our schools and we have been involved in planting, singing and fundraising in many different ways in our schools.



Proms

The Gosforth Voices were invited to take part in the School proms. This was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to perform to a large audience on the City Hall Stage, and a great way to continue our work and show our support for Daft as a Brush.

Daft day

Each school held a 'Daft Day' where various activities took place to raise funds and to involve all pupils in the fun of the day. This will continue into the following year.

Trust Development Plan

We have continued to review our development plan and our key aims. The actions we will take to meet our key aims have been refined and reshaped in light of what we have been able to achieve so far by working collaboratively as well as taking into account the changing demands on schools and provision. Each term the plan is reviewed at the Directors' Meeting and then shared with governing bodies.



The plan has five key aims which continue to be:



1. Expand educational opportunities for our children
2. Share best practice across the schools in the interests of protect and promote collaborative working (including schemes, policies and resources)
3. To work more effectively with parents, carers, partners and the wider community
4. Create opportunities for peer review, shadowing, middle leadership, succession planning
5. To seek opportunities for additional funding streams and financial efficiencies

Achievements and Performance

The outcomes and impact of the Trust Development Plan have been regularly reported to the Board members and the Trust Foundation Governors. Headteachers continue to review actions termly and plan new ways to meet our aims.

A number of inter school events have taken place. Joint ventures in music and science have continued with increasing positive impact on the educational offer from all of the schools. Gosforth Voices and Band have performed together in various contexts, including a tour of all First Schools. Science week in the Spring term involved all schools in the same activities which were developed by staff and the Trust Council. There are plans in place for a joint art gallery as part of the Great Exhibition of the North.

All of the Subject leaders from each school are now collaborating closely to plan opportunities and share best practice. In English and maths we have continued to work with leading consultants and ensure that schools receive quality input on national developments as well as planning opportunities for further collaboration. Joint training days, tailored to the needs of groups of schools, have made high quality CPD affordable. The SEN group is now very well established and held its first joint SEN fair early in the spring term. This allowed parents, carers and staff to explore new opportunities and services by meeting outside providers and agencies who are able to work with schools and families. Feedback from Parents, carers and staff was 100% positive. The joint twilights and moderation activities have taken place each term and these have been refined and made more meaningful each time. These will continue into the new year. Plans for the coming year prioritise closer and more formalised collaboration and school-to-school learning as well as looking at further reducing costs through sharing resources, CPD and related costs. We held the first shared data day earlier in the year and this allowed HTs and DHTs to collaborate on emerging issues and support each other on areas of school improvement. This will become a regular event and will have a tighter focus on outcomes and support (please see below for the data/outcomes for each individual school). We have spoken with the LA on our position regarding supporting schools in the Trust when there are identified vulnerabilities, for example changes in leadership, long term absences, following inspections and significant changes in governance.

The SENCos have begun an analysis of SEN provision in the GST and this will be used to bid for transformation and capital funding to facilitate more effective work in schools and more collaboration in providing the best possible support for children with SEN.

The above activities are examples of how the Trust has worked collectively to meet its aims. It is not an exhaustive list.

Individual school data for pupil outcomes (July 2017)

First Schools

School	EYFSP GLD	Phonics (Y1 % WA)	Phonics (Y2 % WA) Year 2 Pupils	KS1								
				Reading WTS	Reading EXS+	Reading GDS	Writing WTS	Writing EXS+	Writing GDS	Maths WTS	Maths EXS+	Maths GDS
Archbishop Runcie	73.3	93.3	66.7	10.0	90.0	40.0	23.3	76.7	20.0	23.3	76.7	20.0
Archibald	88.5	96.7	88.3	13.3	86.7	40.0	18.3	81.7	25.0	15.0	85.0	31.7
Broadway East	75.6	86.4	100.0	8.9	91.1	53.3	13.3	86.7	37.8	11.1	88.9	37.8
Brunton First	93.3	95.6	50.0	6.7	93.3	45.0	11.7	88.3	21.7	6.7	93.3	40.0
Dinnington First	69.0	83.3	100.0	16.7	83.3	36.7	26.7	73.3	13.3	16.7	83.3	26.7
Gosforth Park First	82.2	95.6	66.7	20.5	79.5	38.6	34.1	65.9	18.2	38.6	61.4	20.5
Grange	75.0	96.7	83.3	25.8	74.2	22.6	25.8	74.2	12.9	16.1	83.9	19.4
Regent Farm First	70.5	80.0	66.7	21.7	78.3	25.0	20.0	80.0	21.7	23.3	76.7	21.7
South Gosforth First	83.3	90.0	33.3	11.1	88.9	42.2	17.8	82.2	37.8	17.8	82.2	37.8

Middle Schools

	Key Stage 2									
	RWM Expected Standard	RWM Higher Standard	Reading EXS+	Reading Higher Standard	Writing EXS+	Writing GDS	Maths EXS+	Maths Higher Standard	GPS Expected Standard	GPS Higher Standard
Gosforth Central Middle	76.4	9.4	89.0	36.2	91.3	18.1	85.8	30.7	89.0	29.9
Gosforth East Middle	70.8	2.5	82.5	39.2	75.8	3.3	94.2	29.2	85.0	39.2

Finance

Statement of Financial Activities for period ended 31st March 2017

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2016</i>	
Incoming Resources		
From charitable activities	£	11,954
Other incoming resources	£	3,000
Total incoming resources	£	14,954
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Resources Expended		
Support costs	£	362,551
Governance costs	£	1,680
Total resources expended	£	364,231
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Net income for the year <i>or Net movement in funds</i>	£	349,277
Fund balances <i>as at 1st April 2016</i>	£27,640,498	
Fund balances <i>as at 31st March 2017</i>	£27,291,221	

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2017

Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets		£ 27,280,432
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Current Assets		
Cash at bank & in hand	£	12,469
Creditors	- £	1,680
<i>Amounts falling due within one year</i>		
Net current assets	£	10,789
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Total assets less current liabilities		£ 27,291,221
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Income Funds		
Unrestricted income funds	£	10,789
Unrestricted capital funds	£	27,280,432
Total income funds		£ 27,291,221

The accounts were approved by the Trust Board on 19th December 2017. A copy of the full accounts can be found on our website.



Our Directors

Julia Bayes

Jeremy Bell

Sean Bullick

Sharon Coull

Martin Fletcher

Sarah Hawkins

Richard Hukin

Helen McKenna

Sarah Medcalf

Tim Stout

Gillian Sanders

Jini Sara

George Snaith

Deb Tyler

Archibald First School

Gosforth Central Middle School

Independent

South Gosforth First School

Dinnington First School

Archbishop Runcie CE First School

Brunton First School

Broadway East First School

Grange First School

Gosforth East Middle School

Regent Farm First School

Gosforth Park First School

Independent and Chairman

Newcastle LA



Gosforth Schools' Trust	Registered office	Find us online	Follow us on Twitter
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