



ne Trust



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Together we are stronger
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A warm welcome from CEO Richard Gill



Ladies and gentlemen... now breathe!

I know that you have all worked so hard and have continued to put children at the heart of everything you do. It has been a busy term with so many highlights. It has also been a very satisfying period across our family of schools; one that has showcased the brilliance of a great many people across the ATLP.

Watching children, teachers and staff unite to make the Arthur Terry School Careers Fair the huge success it was is something



that will live long in the memory. It was a very special occasion that saw many of our ATLP primary children walking alongside our older ATLP secondary pupils.

Former Education Secretary Baroness Nicky Morgan attended as chairwoman of the Careers Enterprise Company and was in awe of the achievement in bringing around 100 exhibiting organisations and 230 visiting professionals together for what is believed to be the largest ever school-organised careers fair. My thanks to Arthur Terry's Director of Careers, Alex Zarifeh, for making this vision become a reality.

We are now ready for catering to move 'in-house' at the start of the spring term when a 'soft launch' goes live. Operations and Estates and others have pulled together to ensure our children will receive a much-improved dining experience and menu.

Several of our schools have received Ofsted inspections this term and feedback has been hugely encouraging. I thank our whole school communities for coming together and supporting each other in preparation for and during the visits. The desire to help each other is palpable and that is something we should all be hugely proud of.

The ATLP is growing rapidly and, as our number of schools, children, teachers and staff

increase, it has never been more important for the Partnership to enjoy financial security.

Striving to marry value for money with achieving the best outcomes for our children in the decisions we make is a constant objective across the Partnership. This edition of One Trust will showcase some of the outstanding and often unnoticed work which goes on to achieve this.

Coming together as a learning family remains one of my priorities. With this in mind I am delighted to share with you that our next ATLP Learning Conference has been booked for September 2024 – once again at the ICC in Birmingham. More news and information will be shared with you over the next 18 months as we count down to this important day in the Trust calendar.

My sincere thanks to each and every one of you for your unstinting efforts to support children and colleagues. It is your expertise, dedication and commitment that enables our children to thrive.

I wish you all a happy and relaxing Easter break with your families and friends.

Richard Gill CBE - CEO
The Arthur Terry
Learning Partnership

Contracts and Procurement work progressing well

The Contracts and Procurement department was created following an internal restructuring of Central Support Services and is playing a key role in contributing to the financial stability of the Partnership.

The focus over the coming months is on building a comprehensive contracts database to identify where best to concentrate efforts for consolidating procurement. This will be further informed by working closely with the Estates Managers to review any contract management and supplier concerns to identify which services to prioritise.

As we head towards the 2023/24 academic year, we have already seen Partnership-wide consolidation of cleaning contracts and the eagerly-anticipated move of catering in house.

Contracts and Procurement manager Tracy Phillips revealed that the Partnership is currently tendering for a new printing and photocopying contract which will support Digital Transformation

Lead Richard Anderton's work with the Learning Futures initiative.

She added that, with energy contracts also due for renewal, Contracts and Procurement are working closely with a specialist energy consultant to minimise the impact of rising energy costs.

Tracy said: "Contracts and Procurement work closely with many internal and external stakeholders, for example the central team, school colleagues and external suppliers, as we continue to build effective, strong and sustainable relationships.

"Being a growing Trust puts ATLP in a strong position to consolidate independent school contracts to Multi-Academy Trust contracts with the potential for big savings."



The Partnership currently benefit from Trust discounts for the Management Information System, as well as other contracts and subscriptions including Every data system, FFT Aspire and Edukey Provision Map.

Tracy will also continue to support schools with reviews of subscriptions to maximise savings and consolidate procurement as far as possible.



Sustainability Champions are protecting the planet



Sophie Dale, Matilda Bancroft, Ava Codd, Darcy Bourne, Sofia Williams, Evelyn Masters, Martha Ebrey, Ines Fennell, Keira Thakore and Isabel Stant are all Sustainability Champions!

Green-fingered pupils at several Partnership schools are leading the way in preserving the environment and doing all they can to limit climate change.

Among the children dedicated to this vital work are the hardworking Sustainability Champions at Hill West Primary School who meet each month to improve sustainability in their surroundings.

An extremely proud Headteacher Dr Beth Clarke explained: "The Sustainability Champions are children who have strong interests in the environment and sustainability. This ongoing team has been in force at Hill West for more than ten years now.

"There are around 25 children involved in the project at the moment and over the years there's been about 200 who have contributed. It all began as part of our Rights Respecting Work, for which a School Climate Charter was developed by pupils who worked alongside Andrew Mitchell MP.

"Every month there is a focus on one particular action which can help the environment and improve sustainability and the children use this to focus their minds on the forthcoming new-build at Hill West, which will eventually be carbon-neutral.

"We've got a vegetable garden and allotment here which the children really enjoy and the orchard which was planted in commemoration of the 2012 London Olympics produced its first fruit last summer.

"The Hill West Sustainability

Champions want everyone to live sustainably and that means taking action to protect the world climate change and global warming."

Sustainability Champion Martha Ebrey said: "Nature is a fragile thing and if we don't protect it the future will be empty. As human beings have evolved, we have destroyed the natural world and we need to do our best to protect what is left."

Her fellow Champion Sofia Williams added: "There isn't another planet we can live on, so we all need to be ever-respectful in every aspect of our lives."

Another Champion Isabel Stant agreed: "Plants and trees are important to us as they are what keeps us alive."

Mrs Clarke added: "Our Sustainability Champions have produced a Climate Change Charter with the ambition that our school becomes carbon-neutral (with the new build in mind) and to ensure we don't contribute negatively towards climate change.

"Our pupils are setting a great example in reducing our power consumption and thinking carefully about transport to reduce use of fuels which contribute to global warming at school and at home. They also work hard to protect habitats and the environment by enhancing the removal of carbon dioxide in a number of ways.

"This will encourage adults to take action against climate change and protect the world for future generations."

The Hill West Sustainability Champions' commitments

POWER - Reduce power consumption at school and home and limit carbon dioxide emissions by...

- Turning off lights
- Turning off electrical equipment
- Using renewable sources of energy wherever possible
- Using energy-efficient appliances

TRANSPORT - Reduce use of fuels which contribute to global warming at school and home and limit carbon dioxide emissions by...

- Walking, Cycling, Scootering, Parking and walking
- Car-sharing
- Using train or bus instead of car

PROTECTION OF HABITATS AND ENVIRONMENT

- Maintain or enhance the removal of carbon dioxide from the environment at school and home by...

- Ensuring that, if plants die or need to be removed from their current location, they are replaced by a similar or increased number of other plants
- Turn off taps when water is not being used
- Placing litter in bins or pockets
- Reduce, reuse or recycle
- Planting new plants pro-actively, or protecting existing plants that provide food and shelter for other creatures
- This will increase carbon dioxide absorption and produce more oxygen, in turn reducing climate change

CAMPAIGN FOR CHANGE - Ensure action is taken to reduce the impact of climate change on the world climate and our environments by...

- Speaking out whenever possible at school, home and in the community
- Taking action against climate change
- Wiring to local politicians or national politicians to let them know our views
- Talking to members of the Rights Respecting Steering Group to let them know our thoughts and feelings about climate change and its impact on us

Eco Councillors setting a fine example



Some of Mere Green's Eco Councillors.

A dozen committed Mere Green Primary pupils have a busy time in store as they continue their great work as Eco Councillors.

The school has an Eco Council and Forest School which have been running for three years and boasts previous achievements including bake sales to purchase bird baths and homes.

Councillors meet every half term to discuss litter, clothing and energy-saving among many things and they also create posters and material for assemblies to raise awareness.

As part of the current Great British Spring Clean 2023, around 180 children from reception to year 2 are participating in litter-picks around school grounds during either Forest School lessons or the after-school Forest School Club which takes place every Monday.

The next step on the way to councillors achieving their Gold Eco-Schools Award will be taking part in May's National Walk to School Week when around 360 Mere Green children will put their best feet forward.

Around half of that figure are expected to walk to school rather than 'park and stride' as they may usually do.

Councillors are also promoting the need to reuse and recycle by organising a second-hand clothes sale which takes place at the school on Thursday, June 22.

Mere Green's Eco Councillors are Viraj Jinida, Chloe Wallace, Joshua Elton, Jude Pritchard, Isabella Bradshaw, Sienna Hill, Zoe Horton, Lottie Aston, Jude Hipkiss, Will Bayley, Grace Brett and Jason Suarez-Blount.

Forest School lessons are weekly and involve fire lighting, campfire cooking, knot tying, tool work and cross-curricular links with science and PSHCE.



Sustainability: Discovering more about the Partnership's 'Green' agenda



Sustainability has never been more important as we work together as One Trust to ensure financial security remains at the forefront of our minds.

Leading the way is the Partnership's Operations and Estates team which is urging all staff and pupils to follow suit in the effort to lower costs, consolidate and upskill people to make better decisions.

Michelle Doughty, Director of Operations and Estates, said: "The success of the Partnership's sustainability mission relies heavily upon energy audits, which are now under way in collaboration with an external company expert in this field.

"Data and evidence from these will inform most effective solutions for investment and strategies for working towards being carbon-neutral and having the biggest impact for best value. Put another way, the findings will set out our roadmap - particularly for estates modifications that can contribute to change.

"A review of our energy contracts is under way. The market is still volatile and cost per unit is unlikely to result in significant savings on its' own, although consolidation and keeping a watchful eye on the market will be beneficial to us.

"We are also now reviewing our procurement as we look at how we can incorporate sustainability within our procurement policies.

This is really important when we consider our supply chains and the contractors we engage with.

"Waste management will be reviewed in due course because it's important to do all we can to reduce waste, recycle more and be more effective with our waste management across the organisation."

All of us across the Partnership can play our part in positively impacting energy consumption and its cost in the simplest of ways.

Switching off lights on leaving a room, closing windows when possible (maintaining a regard for ventilation), turning off appliances such as TVs rather than leaving on standby and avoiding the use of heaters and air conditioning unless essential are basic yet crucial examples of making a difference.

These actions are particularly vital on Fridays and before school holidays to ensure energy is not wasted whilst most people are not in the school buildings.

Michelle added: "In terms of Continuing Professional Development (CPD), we will be reviewing what education is needed to assist different members of our organisation in relation to their roles. This includes what is relevant for all staff, as well as specific roles with specific accountabilities linking to sustainability.

"CPD will support us upskilling, increasing knowledge and therefore better informing our strategies. Broadening everyone's awareness of how far sustainability reaches into various aspects of our organisation and in what ways is vital."





FINANCE

In Focus -

Introducing Finance Manager Vicky Judge

Matching financial management with experience of working in schools has become second nature for Vicky Judge, who has quickly settled into life at the Partnership having joined our team last Easter.

Vicky is one of our eight finance managers, who play a crucial role in the finance team led by department manager Ria Farrell. Vicky arrived fresh from completing her Association of Accounting Technicians accountancy qualification.

Applying for the role came as a natural progression for Vicky, who has previously worked in finance for a secondary and primary school.

Vicky explained some of the continuing tasks she completes to help ensure the smooth running of one of the Partnership's most vital departments.

She said: "I currently look after the finances for Mere Green Primary School and Greysbrooke Primary School and I have recently taken over as Finance Manager for The Coleshill School.

"My role involves setting the budgets for the schools and monitoring the income and expenditure throughout the year.

"I complete Budget Monitoring Reports monthly and report on these both internally and to headteachers, which provides guidance and support on financial issues. Establishing and implementing these reports of costs helps to ensure we have the most efficient cost base possible.

"A key responsibility of my role includes ensuring the Trust's compliance with all financial regulations and making sure internal policies are followed in all financial processes.

"I oversee orders for my schools and payments of suppliers across the Trust, as well as reconciling all financial information.

"Working across a number of schools allows me to maintain an overall picture of what is working best and to help the finance team implement best practice across the Partnership."

Vicky has thoroughly enjoyed her first year working in the team and places great value on helping ensure a stable financial footing for the Partnership which in turn helps provide the best resources for children to prosper.

She added: "I really enjoy working as part of a team in finance, working alongside the finance assistants and other finance managers to share information across the schools and share ideas to improve practices and increase efficiencies across the Partnership.



Finance Manager Vicky Judge.

"We have a really great team who all support each other, as well as working effectively together with the other support services such as Human Resources and Operations and Estates to deliver a co-ordinated approach.

"I find it very rewarding building positive relationships with the schools I look after and working together with them to see how the ATLP can benefit all the children who attend our schools."

When she is not crunching the numbers, Vicky enjoys relaxing at home with her husband, daughter and rescue dogs.

She said: "I love spending time going away in our little caravan, walking the dogs and chilling out with a good book."

One Trust message shared at Advocate Launch

The importance of the local voice was evident when the Partnership's new Governance Network hosted its first event in the shape of a highly successful Advocate Launch.

The Network, launched in September 2022, staged the Saturday morning get-together at Aston Wood Golf Club where our inspirational advocates, trustees and advocate committee members were offered the opportunity to meet their fellow volunteers and some of the key members of the Central Team staff to learn more about different topics outside of regular meetings.

A number of speakers addressed the room including the Chairman of the Trust Board, John Vickers; ATLP's Chief Executive Officer,

Richard Gill CBE; ATLP's Chief Finance and Operations Officer, Simon Smith; Trustee, Sam Henson; and Governance and Compliance Manager, Katherine Thomas.

Guests learned about the implementation of the Learning Futures programme and received updates on wider operational priorities and the education sector policy landscape. They also reviewed some key considerations for the management of complaints, suspensions and exclusions, particularly for those involved in panels as outlined in new policies.

The occasion was also used to thank Alan Wharton for his 35-plus years of service to ATLP schools in a multitude of roles following his retirement from our Board of Members.

The Advocate Launch brought together key behind the scenes figures.



Favourites come to life on World Book Day

Celebrating the joys of reading is a regular occurrence across the Partnership, but none more so than on World Book Day earlier this month.

Children across our schools dressed up as their favourite characters and read all kinds of books to mark the occasion.

Among those enjoying the occasion were these enthusiastic pupils at Greysbrooke and Slade primary schools.



Osborne pupils open new Lidl store



Osborne Primary pupils were thrilled to help launch the new Lidl store.

Youngsters from Osborne Primary School got the VIP treatment when they helped unveil a new supermarket in their neighbourhood.

Two lucky pupils cut the ribbon and declared the Lidl store in Sutton Road, Erdington, open for business.

Osborne Deputy Headteacher Clare Harris said: "The children were all very excited to be invited to take part in the grand opening.

"When they arrived they were greeted and given a gift bag and a piece of fruit and were then given a VIP tour of the new store, which looked immaculate."

Osborne head boy Temmy Lawal and head girl Silver Shaw stepped forward to cut the ribbon and officially open the store, before allowing the public in.

Mrs Harris added: "We went in to make our first purchase of breakfast items, so we could head back to school and enjoy some pastries to start our day."



Arthur Terry
Teaching School Hub
North Birmingham

Teaching internship incentive for undergraduates



The Arthur Terry Teaching School Hub is offering an exciting Teaching Internship Programme to undergraduates.

The internship is open to undergraduates who are interested in teaching physics, computing and maths and is available to those who are studying that degree or one of similar nature.

The internship, which starts on June 26, lasts for three weeks and interns can earn up to £900 in the duration.

If you know somebody who would be interested, they can find more information at [Teaching Internship Programme | Arthur Terry Teaching School Hub - Arthur Terry Teaching School \(atlp.org.uk\)](http://Teaching Internship Programme | Arthur Terry Teaching School Hub - Arthur Terry Teaching School (atlp.org.uk)). Spaces for this are limited, so pass on the news today!



Careers chief lavishes praise on record-breaking fair

Former Education Secretary Baroness Nicky Morgan hailed the record-breaking Arthur Terry School Careers Fair as 'truly inspirational'.

Baroness Morgan, the chairwoman of the Careers Enterprise Company (CEC), joined more than 2,000 students from across the Partnership at the huge event.

Pupils from ten schools engaged with around 100 exhibiting organisations and 230 visiting professionals in what was billed as 'the largest ever school-organised careers fair.'

Baroness Morgan toured the fair before sitting down with Arthur Terry children to hear about how the school has helped them reach out to employers and develop their own careers strategy.

She said: "This careers fair was truly inspirational. The school obviously absolutely prioritises Careers Education - helping students take their next best step in life - which is what the Careers Enterprise Company is all about.

"There is clearly great support from the leadership team at Arthur Terry and the school has worked hard to build a remarkable network that it can call upon to support in its careers programme.

"I was also hugely impressed by the students and the amazing variety of things that they are doing to explore the world of work and employment."

"That's the point, because work in the 21st century offers varied and exciting opportunities for young people and this school captures that."

Employers including the BBC, NHS, Bentley Motors, BMW, PwC, HSBC, Yahoo, Browne Jacobson, Network Rail, GCHQ and Arcadis joined local and regional SMEs, universities, colleges, apprenticeship, T Level and UTC (University Technical College) providers at the fair.

The ten participating schools were Arthur Terry, Coton Green, Hill West, Mere Green, William MacGregor, St Chad's, Coleshill, Nether Stowe, West Coventry Academy and John Willmott.

Baroness Morgan's visit was arranged by Birmingham Careers Hub, which is funded by the CEC and delivers careers support to more than 100 schools across the Second City.



Year 8 Arthur Terry pupils kitted out in fire equipment at the careers fair. Picture by Ros Geillis.

Arthur Terry Headteacher Samantha Kibble said: "The Careers Fair was a great success and I would like to express my gratitude to Baroness Morgan for coming along to see the fruits of six months' hard work by Alex Zarifeh, our Director of Careers, who organised what we believe was arguably the biggest school-organised event of this kind ever."

ATLP CEO Richard Gill CBE said: "By connecting hundreds of professional contributors with thousands of students from across our schools, this Careers Fair has set a new precedent in what we can achieve in our Careers Education programme."



Year 6 Mere Green pupils hugely enjoyed the event.

Paris is perfect for language pupils

West Coventry Academy and The Coleshill School pupils enjoyed an exhilarating visit to Paris thanks to collaborative work between the languages departments at their schools.

To further develop links between the two schools, a joint trip to the French capital was organised for Key Stage 4 French students.

As part of their GCSE course, 40 pupils in years 10 and 11 discovered Paris' breathtaking sights including the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe and Notre Dame Cathedral. They also cruised on the River Seine and did some shopping on the world-famous Champs-Élysées.

The lucky visitors also enjoyed some thrilling rides at Disneyland, where many memories were made.

Claire Fazilleau, Modern Foreign Languages Head at West Coventry Academy, said: "The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly seeing the Eiffel Tower sparkle at night. It was a magical view that our students will treasure forever.

"Well done and merci to all of our students who were amazing ambassadors for West Coventry Academy and The Coleshill School."



Disneyland, the Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame Cathedral were among the amazing attractions for pupils.



As One Trust went to press, 156 children and 22 staff from seven ATLP schools had just arrived in France for a hugely exciting Year 6 residential.

Pupils had already enjoyed a river cruise and trip to Palace of Fontainebleau (pictured) – one of the largest French royal chateau – as well as a tour of the Stade de France. #OneTrust.

Oxford and Cambridge come calling for dedicated students

A trio of our students are celebrating after seeing their commitment and talents rewarded by receiving offers to study at two of the country's most prestigious universities.

John Willmott School's Hunor Veres has been given a conditional offer to study medicine at the University of Oxford, whilst Arthur Terry School's Beth Clayton and Annabelle Parnell-Lea also have plenty of reason to smile.

Beth has received a conditional offer to study human, social and political sciences at the University of Cambridge and Annabelle has a conditional offer to study English at Oxford.

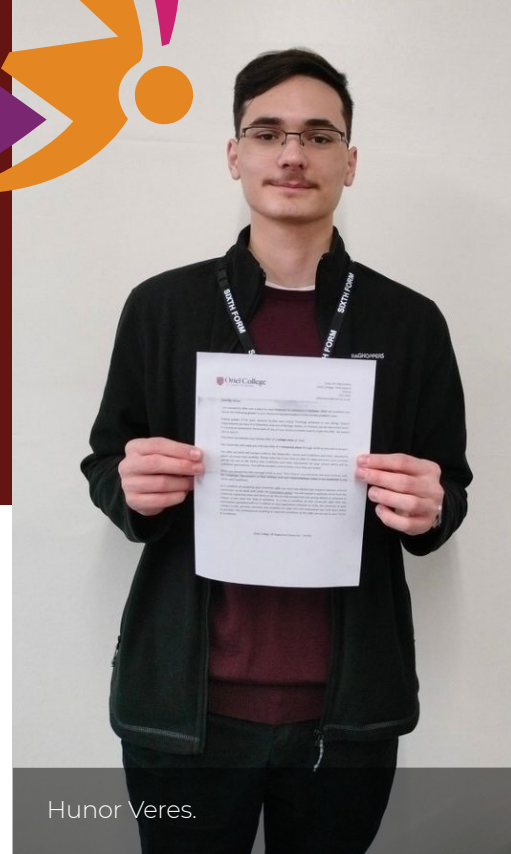
Arthur Terry Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form Adam Ball said: "I am extremely proud of both students who have received incredible offers from prestigious universities. This is testament to their hard work and commitment to their studies."

John Willmott Headteacher Nicola Gould said: "What Hunor has done in securing a place to study medicine at Oxford is truly remarkable."

"This is one of the most well-respected programmes in the world. Competition for this place is strong, which makes this achievement all the greater. We are thrilled for him!"

Head of Sixth Form Amanda Sharp, who has supported Hunor during his studies and with the Oxford process, added: "We are so pleased for Hunor. This is richly deserved as all of his hard work and dedication to study medicine has led to this amazing opportunity."

Beth Clayton and Annabelle Parnell-Lea alongside Arthur Terry Headteacher Samantha Kibble and Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form Adam Ball.



Hunor Veres.





Meet Brian Cookson

ATLP Trustee and Finance Committee Chairman



Brian Cookson is proud to play a key role in education.

'Every penny counts' is the message from Brian Cookson, who plays a crucial role in ensuring value for money is delivered to our children thanks to sound financial planning.

Brian, who has chaired the four-person finance committee for four years, said: "It's essential to have scrutiny of everything going on in order for us to operate successfully as One Trust. As trustees, we are constantly asking ourselves whether the money coming in or out of the Partnership meets the mission statement for One Trust.

"We have to ask ourselves whether something will work and provide value for money, with the focus constantly on our students. As a finance committee, we will work with Simon (Smith, Chief Finance and Operations Officer) and Ria (Farrell, Head of Finance) and others to support and scrutinise in order to achieve the best outcomes.

"It's of paramount importance for trustees to become involved in the scrutiny and governance of education whilst simultaneously providing collaborative support and ideas for the people running our schools on a daily basis."

Lichfield resident Brian, who taught for 47 years primarily in the city and Tamworth, highlighted Learning Futures as one recent example of trustees playing a key part in the introduction of a game-changing project across the Partnership.

He added: "Learning Futures is a huge investment and commitment for the Partnership

which had to be examined and scrutinised. This meant weighing up the benefits to pupils against the high costs of the investment.

"When the Partnership or any individual school prepares to make a massive commitment to a project, it's our job as a committee to drill right down into the figures and plans and weigh up which is the best path to take, if indeed we take one at all.

"This close scrutiny, which we undertake whilst keeping close contact with the support team, is cyclical. A good example would be the prioritising of school maintenance, which is also extremely important."

Brian has a wealth of experience in both education and finance, including as head of sixth form at a school in Tamworth, during which time he spearheaded the 'Tamworth Opportunities Post-16 Project' in partnership with key figures from other sixth forms.

He had a spell as chairman of finance and investments for the AQA exam board, for which he was a trustee for 11 years. Brian was also honorary national treasurer for a large trade union and felt privileged to work for more than five years with the European Commission on the Employment and Training 2020 Report. He is still keen to say he has no plans to retire.

Brian had this message for anyone thinking of becoming a trustee or advocate. He said: "Taking on a trustee or similar role is a huge opportunity to contribute to education.

"If I take the finance committee as an example, it is made up of people committed to supporting the best for all our pupils and students and who can put their different perspectives on important matters. This is a wonderful way of working as we can discuss wide-ranging opinions before ultimately deciding upon the best decision as we work to fully support delivering the One Trust ethos.

"There is most certainly a skill involved in drawing the line between supporting and interfering with the vital efforts of those running our schools so efficiently and effectively week in, week out."

When he is not debating important financial decisions, Brian likes to relax in his home city.

"I regard Lichfield as my true home where I feel lucky to have lived since getting married to Sue and where I watched my daughter grow up," added Brian.

"It is the ideal location to enjoy walking and cycling, which have long since had to take the place of training for and running marathons which I enjoyed when I was younger.

"Sue, who is from Cumbria, has always said Lichfield's central location makes it so easy to reach anywhere in the country and travelling for work and pleasure is certainly something I have always enjoyed.

"Working in education and being involved in supporting young people in this area and beyond is just the icing on the cake!"



Meet Dr Rhian Warrack

New Scotch Orchard head aims to open up school to community

The new Head of School at our much-loved Lichfield primary say she has ambitions to open the site up to make it the 'heart of the local community'.

Dr Rhian Warrack took over at Scotch Orchard Primary in February and is already welcoming members of the community into the school.

She said: "I've already made lots of links with children and local families. It's a fantastic community and the school is clearly an important part of it. We have children here whose parents were

also Scotch Orchard pupils when they were little, so there really is a connection with the school that goes across generations."

Earlier this month Rhian invited families into the school to meet her and then opened the doors again the following week to enable parents to look at their children's books in their classrooms prior to parents evening later in the month.

She said: "We want people to see what their children are doing and share in their learning adventure. It's about building bonds between

families and the school, so that we work together in partnership."

Key to Rhian's approach to education is an ethos of belonging, believing, learning and achieving.

She explained: "I think in order for children to succeed they need to feel they belong and develop trust with those around them. That way, children can believe in themselves and then they become open to learning.

"If we get that right, our children can go on to achieve whatever they want to. Working hard and



New Scotch Orchard Primary School Head of School Dr Rhian Warrack with pupils Libby, Hayden and Connor.



Continued Story >

never giving up is something we really want to instil in them.”

Long term, Rhian has a vision that could see the school become even more of a hub for the community.

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She said: “The school has such an amazing amount of space and fantastic grounds. The potential is vast and I would really like to open us up more, to really put us at the heart of our community.

.....

“For example, with the amount of space we have in the building, we could potentially have a toddler group here. We’ve got the resources and space and have early years expertise with the nursery on site as well.

“That would mean our local community would be able to come in with their youngest children and get to know the building and engage with the school. We could even link in with health visitors, hold breastfeeding

clinics or host similar health access points.”

Fully utilising Scotch Orchard’s ample outside areas is also on the radar of Rhian, who added: “We have a forest area here which is a little bit tired and I would like to really look at revitalising that.

“If we could develop our outside area to be more of a forest school offering, it would give the children the opportunity to learn in a fantastic open air environment.

“Again, we could potentially get the community behind us to work together to create that kind of space for the school. There is so much potential.”

Before becoming an educator, Rhian was a biochemist who trained at Imperial College in London, before gaining her PhD at the University of Birmingham.

Married to chartered surveyor Charlie and mother to daughters Maia and Molly, Rhian grew up in a household valuing education as her mum was a headteacher at a school in Wales. After changing careers to become a teacher, she is now relishing the opportunity to develop her skills within the Partnership.

She added: “The support that ATLP provides is really unparalleled - both for schools

and for individuals. The Partnership’s underlying ethos that we are all part of a family fits with my educational ethos and it’s absolutely true that children sit at the heart of everything the ATLP does. That really resonates with me, because it’s how I function too.”

It was at Hill West Primary in Sutton Coldfield where Rhian developed her leadership skills.

She continued: “The support of the headteacher at Hill West, Dr Beth Clarke, was so important as I developed as a leader.

“Beth believed there was something about me and supported me to first become an associate headteacher in 2018 and then made me acting deputy headteacher in December 2021, which became permanent in November 2021.

“Beth’s belief in me and the development opportunities she gave me during my time at Hill West have helped shape me into the practitioner I am today. Knowing that she believes in me, alongside other members of the senior leadership team in the ATLP, gives me the strength to take on this position at Scotch Orchard, knowing that I can call on the support of the ATLP family at any time if I need to.”

New Starters

We have been delighted to welcome many new faces to the Partnership this term. We wish all of our new colleagues all the very best in their roles.



Arthur Terry School

Hayley Grant
Administration Assistant

William Kirby
Academic Mentor - MFL



Mere Green Primary

Lindsay Ashmore
Teaching Assistant

Tsz Pang Yan
Teaching Assistant
One to One



ATLP

Aimee Hutchinson
Finance Manager

Harry Matthews
Catering Operations Manager



The Coleshill School

Kiara McGinley
Teaching Assistant

Holly Rowney
SEND Administrator



Osborne Primary

Michelle Arkinstall
Teaching Assistant



St Chad's Primary

Joshua Jordan
Teaching Assistant



Slade Primary

Veronika Green
Teaching Assistant One to One



John Willmott School

Heather Wilkins
Teacher of English

Internal promotions



Arthur Terry School

Lorraine Holland
Co Lead for Safeguarding



John Willmott School

Hannah Shrigley
Head of History



ATLP

Simon Standley
Network Manager



The Coleshill School

Suzanne Brunt
Second in MFL

What did you think of issue three of 'One Trust'?

If your school has a great story to share, or there is a teacher or member of support staff who is championing our One Trust ethos, then please get in touch about potential coverage in a forthcoming issue.

Share your thoughts and feedback with Communications Officer Liam Moakes by emailing liam.moakes@atlp.org.uk.



Coton Green Primary School



Together we are stronger