

SYNERGISE

Synergy Education Trust Newsletter



Welcome

NEILL OLDHAM, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Welcome to the first newsletter from Synergy Education Trust. The newsletter will be a chance to share good news stories from across all school's in the Trust and celebrate important milestones. It will also give you a behind the scenes look of the work of the central team.

The central team have been working hard on the Trust's strategic priorities for the next 3 years and we will be able to share them with you in the Autumn term.

We are also pleased to announce that Moor Park Primary School and Lotus SEMH School will be joining the Synergy family from 1st September 2024. This will make us a 5 school multi academy trust.

As we approach the end of an incredibly busy term I would like to thank each and every one of you for your hardwork and dedication in supporting Synergy pupils and families. I hope you all have a restful summer and I look forward to the Autumn term ahead.

Neill

To change pupil lives for the better through;



Message from the Chair of Trustees

To staff at Synergy Schools

Firstly, to introduce myself, my name is Susan Strother and I was honoured to be asked to be the Chair of Synergy Education Trust following number of years as a governor at Highfurlong School. I have also been a governor at other local schools and am privileged to be working with such a professional team of staff and governors.

My fellow trustees I and will strive to ensure that the objectives of both staff and pupils are met with continuous improvement in all areas of the schools and are both aspirational and realistic.

As a board we are working closely with your Local Governing Boards and senior leadership teams to ensure that

- Everyone associated with the trust understands the trust's vision and ethos for the pupils.
- the funding we receive from central Government is well spent.

The trustees are from a range of backgrounds; however, we could not do our job without the expertise of the school's staff, Governors, Senior leadership team and all support staff to provide guidance and advice on a range of matters.

Trustees are appointed to ensure that objectives are met, and that future planning is both visionary and realistic. We provide strategic direction for the schools, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the schools and hold the school leaders to account for the standards achieved and the quality of education.

I think the most important thing is that Synergy Education Trust is a team, not a collection of individuals or groups with separate agendas. However much we may differ in our opinions and experiences we are united by our commitment to the trust and the responsibility we share for the trust's long term success. This commitment to being a team has resulted in difficult decisions being made to ensure both the financial and educational security of our schools for future years. All board members are given the opportunity to contribute and, therefore, ensure unity and togetherness.

We are here to support and encourage our schools to ensure that every one of our children have access to an enriched education and to all the opportunities that they deserve.

I want to thank each and every one of you for the work you have undertaken over the past school year and this is shown in the results and the attendance figures for each school.

We are delighted to be welcoming Moor Park School and Lotus School into the Synergy family of schools from September and the cross school working that this will facilitate.

If you see me at a school event, please come and have a chat. Another way I can be contacted is via susan.strother@seteducation.org.uk. You will see other trustees at school events as we try to attend as many as possible between us so, please do have a chat.

Have a lovely summer break and see you all in the new school year.

Kind regards, Susan



Meet the Central Team

The Trust Central Team provides the core business functions to ensure that the Trust complies with its statutory responsibilities and supports the operations and educational performance of our schools.

The team operates under the leadership of the CEO; working with staff, trustees and governors in schools to ensure that the required outcomes and priorities of the Trust are achieved in accordance with the Trust's strategic priorities as agreed by the Trust Board.

Executive Leadership Team

Neill Oldham – Chief Executive Officer
ceo@seteducation.org.uk

Suzanne Hamilton – Director of Primary Education/Deputy CEO suzanne.hamilton@seteducation.org.uk

Hilary Wood – Chief Financial Officer
cfo@seteducation.org.uk

Lisa Tupman – Chief Operating Officer
coo@seteducation.org.uk

Supported by;

Anne Clark – Trust Accountant

HR and Payroll – Blackpool Council – Julie Marlow and Dan Watson

Health and Safety – Croner

ICT – Blackpool Council and Remedian

DPO – Blackpool Council

“

In **Synergy** we are stronger together

With an all-inclusive **Education** approach at our heart

We **Trust** and value our schools and communities

”



Welcome Moor Park and Lotus School

In September we welcome Moor Park Primary School and Lotus School to the Synergy family.

We are excited to embark on this collaborative journey with the schools, where our shared vision and values will guide our efforts towards providing an exceptional educational experience for all students in the Trust. At Synergy Education Trust, we believe in the power of working together to achieve common goals and create a thriving learning environment.

Our joint efforts will focus on putting students at the heart of everything we do, ensuring their academic and personal development are prioritised.



Synergy pupils will learn, grow and succeed:

- By accessing a broad balanced curriculum, rich in opportunities
- By passionate, enthusiastic and well-qualified staff, facilitating their learning
- Through focused and skilled pastoral and well-being support
- Through character education to empower the citizens and leaders of the future
- Through inclusive practice



Our school family

Boundary Primary School



Summer term

At Boundary, we have had a busy end to the year. There was a lovely community feel at our summer fair which our new PTFA played a part in organising. The school council also arranged a toy sale to raise money for Brian House – linked to our Elmer project. Our annual Health and Sports week involved a range of activities for the children across school which included wheelchair rugby, HM Coastguards visit and a talk from a gymnast. We also hosted sports days during the hottest week of the year! Take Over Day and the Careers Fair raised the aspirations of our Year 5 pupils once again. The children successfully took over the running of the school and did an excellent job. Many volunteers attended our careers fair, from a range of sectors, sharing their roles and responsibilities. Year 4 enjoyed their fieldwork trip planning a route using maps and then walking all the way to the beach! Year 1 visited Stanley Park in heritage week to explore our local area. Finally, our KS2 SATs results were excellent. Our downward trend of Reading GDS is now back on track and all other results are inline with the emerging national figures.



Highfurlong School

Wow, what an incredible summer term here at Team Highfurlong! It has been full of amazing activities, achievements, and experiences, all of which we are excited to share with you.

Exciting Trips and Experiences

- Show Town Museum Visit: KS3 pupils from Square Class enjoyed an educational trip to the Show Town Museum. Our pupils have been working hard to help make the museum accessible for everyone.
- Gruffalo Clubhouse: Early Years Rainbow Class had a fantastic day at the Gruffalo Clubhouse, which supported their work on Julia Donaldson stories.
- Special School Music Festival: Our choir shone brightly at the Special School Music Festival in May, with an outstanding performance in front of a large audience.
- Grand Theatre Visit: KS3 Pentagon pupils had the exciting opportunity to watch "The Boy at the Back of the Class" at the Grand Theatre in Blackpool. They thoroughly enjoyed the show and made us all proud.
- Community visits: Our KS2 pupils have been out on a number of community visits including to our local park and shops.
- -Preparation for Adulthood: Our sixth form students took the bus to visit a cafe. This was a great opportunity to practise a number of important skills out in the community. Additionally, our KS4 class visited Stanley Park where they placed their own orders at the cafe.

Elmer Trail Adventure

The term began with our very own Highfurlong Hattie entering the Elmer Trail. Pupils and families were incredibly passionate about completing the trail and, together, we raised an amazing £900 for Brian House.

Residential and Outdoor Activities

- Some of our secondary pupils enjoyed a two-day residential visit to Bendrigg Outdoor Experience, participating in a variety of activities that will contribute to their Duke of Edinburgh Awards.
- Both our lower and upper school sports days were a huge success. The upper school sports day took place at Blackpool Sports Centre, and our secondary and sixth form students represented our school wonderfully.

Creative and Active Endeavours

- Move Day Visitors: The whole school participated in Chinese dancing and outdoor adventures. Additionally, we held a glow-in-the-dark dodgeball event in the school hall, which was a unique and fun experience for everyone involved.
- Tales Retold Performance: KS3 pupils put on an excellent performance at the Grand Theatre as part of their project with Tales Retold.
- Each class had their Summer Pool Party, where they played games and had lots of splashing fun!
- Our sixth formers have had weekly workshops with House of Wingz, learning to dance, rap, and create street art.

Summer Fair Success

Our pupils worked incredibly hard to make our Summer Fair a success, with all the gifts being handmade by them as part of our Enterprise journey. We are so proud of their creativity and effort.

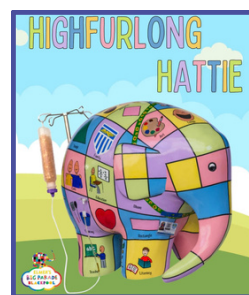
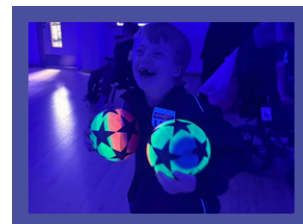
Celebrations and Farewells

We also celebrated our Year 11 and sixth form leavers with a fantastic Prom for KS4 and Sixth Form and Leavers Assembly and in school disco for EYFS to KS3. These celebrations will continue with our Awards Assembly on the last day and a house winners disco too!

A Note on Progress

Our pupils have shown fantastic progress this term and throughout the year, we are excited to see their continued growth and achievements. In particular some of our Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form pupils have achieved a number of qualifications including ASDAN, Entry levels and Function Skills Certificates.

And finally we are very excited to move into our new school building in September which will house our secondary and sixth form provision, with a community cafe and shop.





We have had a wonderful Summer term to end the academic year at Stanley. Each week has brought so many proud moments to share with our children, our families and our local community.

We started the term celebrating the unveiling of 'Bubbles', our very own Elmer the elephant. Children from across our school washed, primed and painted our Elmer for the Wild in Art trail; the very first one of its kind to be held here in Blackpool. Our children and families thoroughly enjoyed joining Elmer's Big Parade and we celebrated raising over £1000 for Brian House.

We were also delighted this term to be awarded Music Ambassador status. Blackpool Music Service joined us for a day to film music provision across school and we are looking forward to attending the music ambassador presentation next week.



We have continued to participate in a huge range of sporting events across Blackpool, attending over 14 events at the Blackpool Youth Games. We won the Primary Blackpool Cross-Country Championship as a school, and are incredibly proud to have also achieved first place in the Blackpool and Lancashire Panathlon Championship. Our Panathlon team went on to compete at the North-West finals, placing second after a point countback from a draw for first place.

As a school we held five sports days, welcoming over 1000 parents, friends and family to watch their children take part in an array of sporting challenges. The sun actually shone for five days!

Year Three visited Ribchester Roman Museum, Year two visited the Blackpool Coastline, Y5 enjoyed a visit to Blackpool Synagogue and twenty Year 6 children visited the Houses of Parliament, Downing Street and took a flight on the London Eye.



We have had many visitors in Stanley this term as we are always striving to improve the educational experiences that enrich our curriculum. We were especially lucky to have Dermot O'Leary at school for an afternoon. He gave an inspirational talk to children, staff and visitors and shared his new book 'Wings of Glory' with the children.

Our newly formed PTFA have been an amazing support, raising just short of £2000 in their first year. We have purchased a new portable sound system which was used for the first time in our Y6 Leaver's concert 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. Our team in Stanley, together with parents, family and friends were treated to our equivalent of a West End production! The children have lots to celebrate as they finish their primary journey with us; as a cohort they have beaten the National averages in the KS2 headline attainment measures.



Autumn term priorities

The autumn priorities for the Trust will include:

- Developing an ICT Trust wide strategy
- Enhancing staff benefits and incentives
- Developing a wellbeing charter for staff and pupils
- Developing the Best Practice networks to support high quality teaching and learning

To view the full strategic plan please visit
www.seteducation.org.uk

HELP

We need your help

We are developing our staff benefits and incentives offer, what would you like to see?

Email your ideas to admin@seteducation.org.uk

Synergy staff will:

- Be supported to fulfil their job role effectively
- Work in a culture where their learning is valued as much as the pupils' learning
- Experience the benefits of working in a caring supportive Multi Academy Trust
- Have an unerring focus on improving the quality of education they provide

Well done Boundary and Stanley pupils and staff on your fantastic SATS results

CONGRATULATIONS!

Year 6

SATS
SUCCESS
2024



Trust Policies

In the Autumn term the Trust wide policies will become available on the Synergy website www.seteducation.org.uk. One of the new policies that has been developed is the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy.

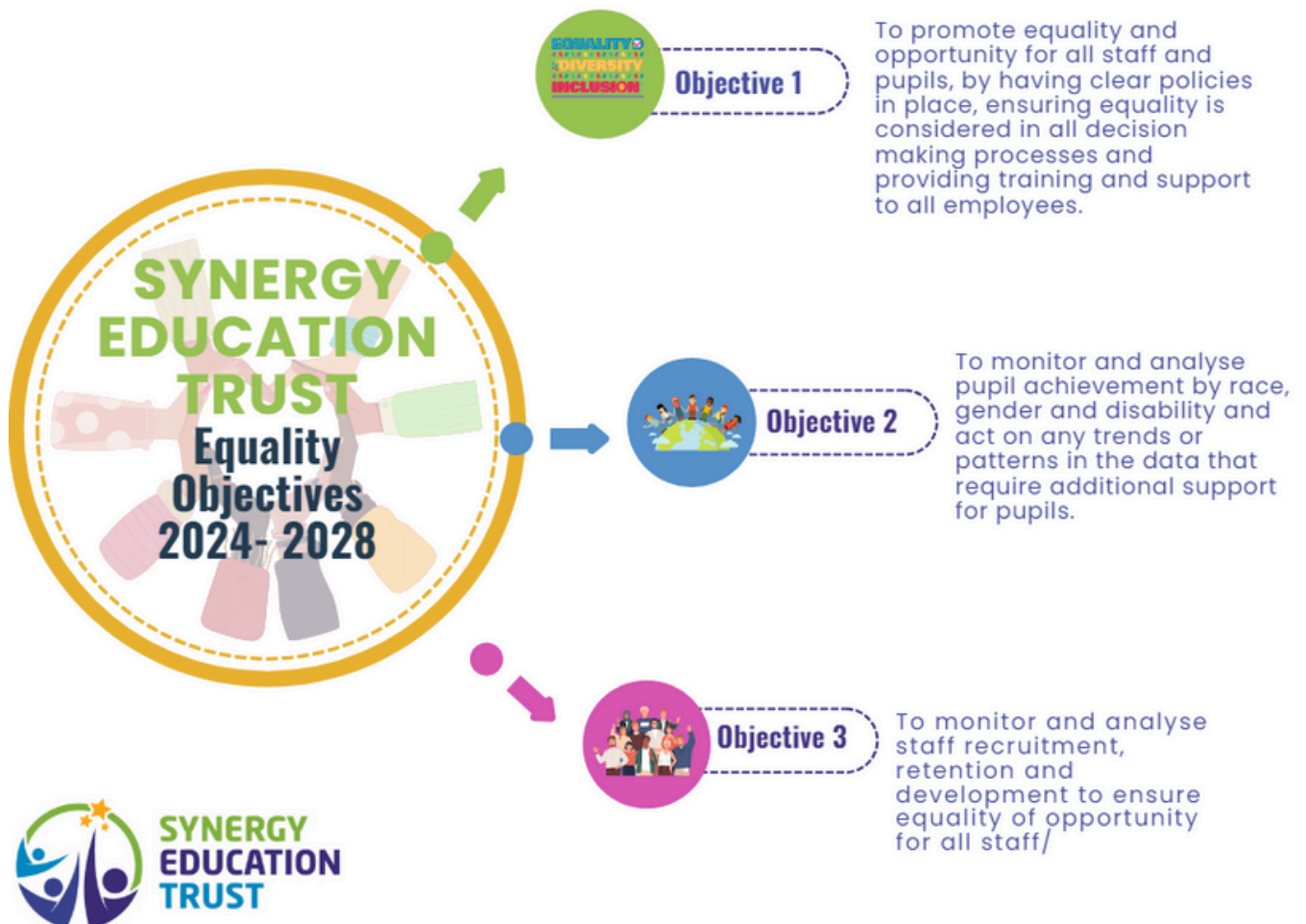
Synergy Education Trust is committed to providing equal opportunities in both employment and when providing education to children and young people. The Trust is opposed to all forms of discrimination in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty 2011 and as defined by the Equality Act 2010, whether direct, perceived, indirect or by association. The policy outlines the Trust Board's vision and objectives for equality, diversity and inclusion across Synergy Education Trust.

Our objectives include fair opportunities for all pupils and staff eliminating discrimination and fostering an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity. We are committed to regularly reviewing and improving our practices to uphold these principles.



Synergy schools will:

- Be safe
- Be inclusive and welcoming environments serving the local community
- Have the autonomy to be an individual
- Have timely access to impactful support
- Learn through collaboration with each other



Thank you!

to all pupils, staff, governors and trustees for your incredible hard work this term

