

Dear parents, carers and students,

We are pleased to be able to give you an update regarding the academisation of Walton-le-Dale High School and the exciting plans we have made for the school.

You may be aware that since Easter 2023 we have been collaborating with the trust and colleagues from Parklands High School in Chorley in order to assess, evaluate, and start the implementation of our plans for the school. We understand that this whole process can be unsettling, but please rest assured that the education, welfare and wellbeing of your children are and always will be at the forefront of our minds, our plans, and our discussions.

Please find below details of our plans.

- Quality of Education: we are excited about the prospect of staff at WLD collaborating with colleagues from Parklands High School and the primary schools, who are planning to join the trust hopefully by Easter 2024. Collaboration will allow all colleagues in the trust to benefit from research-led professional development and best practice regarding teaching and learning.
- Curriculum: we will be working closely with an Ofsted Inspector to conduct a thorough review of the school's curriculum. Parklands went through a similar process prior to their most recent Ofsted inspection, and staff were very positive about the support and guidance provided.
- Behaviour: we will be seeking feedback about and reviewing the school's behaviour policy with the intention to implement a behaviour curriculum and additional training for staff, in addition to establishing our own on-site alternative provision unit.
- Pastoral support: we have already implemented 5 non-teaching House Achievement Leaders in order to provide additional pastoral support. This model has worked incredibly well at Parklands for over 7 years so we look forward to seeing the positive impact our HALs will bring to our school community.
- Special Educational Needs: we plan to review and boost our provision for pupils with special educational needs, following an external review of our provision. This will include additional training for staff and closer working relationships with parents and carers.
- Data and reporting: we are planning to introduce a variety of systems in order to maximise pupil progress and communication with home.
- Character Education: we plan to review our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health & Economic) curriculum, student leadership programme and extra-curricular provision to ensure pupils at the school can further develop their character so they feel better equipped to meet the demands of today's society.
- Stakeholder feedback: we plan to increase engagement with all our stakeholders in order to gain feedback regarding the school and its improvement journey.
- Funding: being part of the trust will enable us to bid for additional funding in order to improve the school environment for your children.

We recognise that the school has already made some significant changes and we hope that parents, carers and students alike will continue to support the school and the trust as we move forward.

Kind regards,



Mrs V Arden  
Headteacher



Mr S Mitchell  
CEO