# **JOIN THE UTTOXETER LEARNING TRUST** AS AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER



#### We are a dynamic and expanding multi-academy trust currently comprising eight schools and a new build, which serve the families of children in and around Staffordshire.

We empower young people to realise their potential and surpass their own expectations from Early Years to Post 16, imparting the knowledge, skills and behaviours to ensure they are fit for the future.

#### www.uttlt.org

At the Uttoxeter Learning Trust, we offer an Associate Membership scheme which allows schools that are interested in joining to gain experience of the benefits of membership before committing to a full legal transfer. The Trust has expertise and understanding of the full age range from Nursery to Sixth Form. We are keen to welcome first, primary, middle and secondary providers to our team.

We have a track record of success with all our schools being Ofsted graded 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. Our all-through schools network enables the ideal transition between phases of education, supporting high levels of progress and inclusivity. At the same time, all our schools have an independence that allows them to best serve their communities, supported by delegation of a range of powers to our local governing boards.

#### ABOUT ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Put simply, it gives you the opportunity to sample the benefits of being part of the Trust to ensure that it is a good fit for your school. In effect you will experience what it is like to be a full member but on a temporary basis.

### **BENEFITS**

Support is provided through collaborative working with other schools in the Trust

- School Improvement and Curriculum Development
- Professional Development, Collaboration and Networking
- Safeguarding and Behavioural Support

## Support is provided through the central team to allow expertise to be shared

- Finance, Resources, Business and IT Function
- Quality assurance, including review of Governance
- Strategy and Vision and Development of Policies at a strategic level
- Appraisal of senior leadership across the Trust
- Health and safety and estate management

## Support is provided through shared SLAs which help to provide economies of scale

- Data protection
- Health and safety and estate management
- HR support
- Payroll

## CASE STUDY: THE RICHARD CLARKE FIRST SCHOOL

In September 2021, the Richard Clarke First School (RCFS) joined the Uttoxeter Learning Trust after an extended period as an Associate Member. This allowed RCFS to work closely with the Trust over two years to test out compatibility and benefits.

Headteacher Kay Hanson comments, "It allowed us to work more closely with the Trust to get a proper feel for whether it was the right decision for RCFS to join. The school more or less operated as a full member and so was able to evaluate the potential benefits of membership more thoroughly."



RCFS was able to work with the three First Schools already in the Trust, one of which is graded 'Outstanding'. Headteacher Kay Hanson was able to participate in collaborative activities with other Heads at the monthly headteachers' professional board and half-termly school representation board, which also includes Chairs of Governors.

The Trust provided an opportunity to source external validation activities including analysing and comparing data, moderation, triad projects, learning walks, 'work scrutinies', and learner voice activities.

RCFS staff delivered workshops at the annual 'Light up Uttoxeter' training day run by the Trust on themes such as phonics, Lego therapy, mastery maths, and First Aid. They were also able to access other shared training and CPD opportunities.

Mrs Hanson feels that the biggest benefits have been access to financial and IT expertise and working collaboratively with the other headteachers: "This became particularly useful whilst trying to navigate through the pandemic crisis. It would have been so much worse without our regular Headteacher board meetings, which were very supportive."



The Richard Clarke First School (RCFS) did not want to join a large faceless multi-academy trust. What attracted us to the Uttoxeter Learning Trust was that we shared the vision of working closely to ensure our children have a quality journey from 3-18 to prepare them for the future.

"We liked the fact that the Trust is a collaborative trust, where the heads work closely with the CEO and board to shape the future, ensuring the best outcomes for the pupils. We hope that shared resources, systems, processes, and expertise will help fill the void of the diminishing local authority and support the RCFS in moving forward."

Kay Hanson, Headteacher, Richard Clarke First School

www.richardclarke.staffs.sch.uk

For more information and to discuss whether this is the right option for your school, please contact the CEO: Dr Sarah Clark NPQEL ceo@uttlt.com