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**The STAR Multi-Academy Trust: Update October 2018**

Nine schools formally joined the STAR MAT just before the end of the summer term. As a consequence this has been an exciting and exceptionally busy period, especially around establishing the structures, processes and routines which will underpin our organisation going forward.

Above all things, though, we are determined to put learners first which is reflected in our shared aims:

* *Ensure that our children achieve the best possible outcomes*
* *Develop the whole child; personally, culturally and spiritually*
* *Be inclusive; have a particular commitment to our most vulnerable children*
* *Teach our children to live well together and to make wise choices*
* *Ensure that our children are safe from harm*
* *Work to ensure that our schools are enjoyable places for children to learn*

Although in the early days of our journey, we are already beginning to see the benefits which can be gained from all of our settings working more effectively together. Some of these benefits will be achieved by sharing and aligning the best practice and others through economies of size and scale so that as much money as possible can be invested in ‘front line’ services.

Our Headteacher group meets fortnightly and we are working hard to establish and build capacity across the Trust; particularly in the areas of teaching, learning and the curriculum. The good news is that we start from an excellent base line with overall trust outcomes at KS1, KS2 and KS4 in 2018 being above the national average.

The Trust Board now meets half termly and has established two committees (education and resources). The Trust Board plays a crucial role in steering the direction of the Trust and holding myself, governing bodies and headteachers to account for the success of each school. They have also already had the great pleasure of visiting all schools themselves and have hosted two ‘welcome to governance’ sessions for all our governing bodies.

For further information about Trust developments please see our website at:

[www.starmat.uk](http://www.starmat.uk)

Martyn Sibley

Chief Education Officer