

CEO Briefing Note for Schools and Governors: September 2017

Welcome back to the new school. We hope you had a refreshing break and are ready to hit the ground running for an exciting 2017-18

National news update

Queen's speech suggests period of relative stability as focus switches to Brexit

Following the general election in May, the Queen's speech on 21st June was a welcome relief to colleagues as it promised no immediate plans to introduce further reform across the education sector. This signals a long-awaited year of breathing space after the recent widespread and significant reforms of the last few years in education. There was also no mention of the controversial introduction of grammar schools and instead a promise that:



"My government will continue to work to ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend a good school and that all schools are fairly funded" (Queen's speech 2017)

Unfortunately the Queen's Speech did not take the opportunity to tell us what the government intends to do about either funding or teacher supply issues leading to uncertainty in these key areas.

Schools funding arrangements in 2018 to 2019

A month later in July 2017, the Secretary of State for Education confirmed the future arrangements for school funding. In a [speech to Parliament](#), the Secretary of State confirmed the introduction of a national funding formula for schools and for pupils with high needs from the 2018 to 2019 financial year. The government is also bringing forward additional funding of £1.3 billion, on top of existing spending plans, in 2018 to 2019 and 2019 to 2020. As a result, core funding for schools and high needs will rise from almost £41 billion in 2017 to 2018 to £42.4 billion in 2018 to 2019, and to £43.5 billion in 2019 to 2020.

The increased funding means that the new formula will provide:

- an increase in the basic amount that every pupil attracts through the formula
- continued protection for funding for additional needs
- a minimum of £4,800 per pupil provided for every secondary school
- for the next two years, gains of up to 3% a year for underfunded schools and a 0.5% a year per pupil cash increase for every school

Ashley and Lisa will be working with schools across BDAT to look at the implications of the new funding announcement this term so that Governors and Headteachers have a full understanding of what this means for their three year budget position.

Building on Trust: Monday 25th Sept 17

Calling all senior leaders and chairs! Please make sure you have confirmed your place at the BDAT annual conference this month. This is your chance to hear first hand about BDAT plans and priorities for 2017-18, meet the Trustees of the company and network with your peers. Email beverley.taylor@bdat-academies.org to confirm your place.



Business news

All updated BDAT policies available now

Over the summer the central team have been working hard to bring all the central BDAT policies up to date. This includes all the statutory policies and some of the HR policies which schools commented on and helped review during the summer term.

The finance handbook has also been changed to reflect the changes of the new EFSA Academies Financial Handbook 2017 which as academies we are legally required to comply with and the pay policy has been updated based on the national recommendations for teachers pay published over the summer. For more information visit <http://www.bdat-academies.org/bdat-business/bdat-policies/>

New Governor Hub being piloted in Autumn

BDAT are also looking to invest in a new IT based governor portal for the record and storage of all governor information, minutes, papers, training and secure communications. As many of you will be aware there are much more stringent data protection regulations coming out next year and this programme will ensure all governance documents are compliant and protected whilst being accessible wherever you are.



Look out for a training and demo date being published very soon. To have a look at the system visit <https://governorhub.com/> or speak to Vicky Bray.



The ESFA have recently issued guidance for Trust to complete the statutory **Land and Buildings Collection Tool (LBCT)**. In essence, they are collecting data on every academy as to who owns it, what leases are in place, Land Registry numbers, number of classrooms, main use of buildings and so on. Please make sure all concerned return their information to Peter Thompson by **22nd September**

BDAT growth on track for 2020

We look forward to welcoming four new primary schools in to the Trust having now received Academy orders from DFE following the Purdah period . **St Johns** in Bierley, **Clayton St John**, **Woodlands** and **East Morton** will all convert in to the Trust this Autumn.

Hot on their heels **Heaton St Barnabas** and **St Lukes** in Eccleshill have also received the Diocesan Board of Education approval to explore joining BDAT and we look forward to working with them more in coming months.

With these additions and our ongoing conversations with **Shirley Manor**, **Cullingworth**, **Trinity All Saints** and **Myrtle Park**, BDAT remains on track to hit our growth vision of 20 schools in the next year or two.

Five good reasons to celebrate at St Philips

Pupils and staff at **St Philip's Church of England Academy** start the new academic year with cause for celebration after the school has been confirmed to be a "GOOD" school by OFSTED following a two day inspection in July 2017.

Coupled with much improved provisional 2017 SATS results, St Philips scored a good in every category including leadership, the quality of teaching, early years, behaviour and outcomes. The strength and vision of Michelle Hargreaves the Head was particularly highlighted.

Meanwhile **St Oswalds** also had their second monitoring visit in July 2017 which judged the school to be taking effective action towards the removal of special measures. Well done to everyone involved at both schools and at BDAT.



And congratulations to a truly resilient head teacher at Oxenhope...



And finally inspiring us that we can all achieve near impossible goals with a lot of hard work and determination, well done to John Parkin, head at Oxenhope, who won a 235 mile six-day race from Scotland to Wales this summer. John finished the hugely demanding Deadwater Ultramarathon on August 3rd in a time of 46 hours and 48 minutes!

New starters for September

Bringing in the new academic year we are really pleased to welcome the following new staff to BDAT in September:

- **Damian Chubb** (right) joins us a Deputy CEO for BDAT. Damian has an education background and was previously Development and Standards Officer at Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust. Damian will work 0.4 for BDAT and 0.6 for Dales Academies Trust (the Trust BDAT have supported the set-up of in North Yorkshire).
- **Gemma Elliot** will join us as Head of School at Clayton St John, having previously worked for BDAT at St James since Autumn 2016.
- **Claire Stephenson** will move to work as a BDAT Executive Business Manager working across Westminster Academy and Belle Vue Girls.
- **Joanne Istoan** will join the central MAT team as Governance Support Officer. **Clerking arrangements for 2017-18**



CLERK	BOARD/ACADEMY
Vicky Bray	BDAT Board, AGM, BDAT Finance and Resources Committee, BDAT Audit Committee, BDAT Chairs Group, Clayton St John, The Academy at St James and St Oswald's
Trudy Walker	BDAT Secondary and Primary Committees, BDAT Academy Clusters, BDAT Primary Operations Groups
Joanne Istoan	Belle Vue Girls, Christ Church, Oxenhope, Westminster
Julia Bateson	Bradford Forster, Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College, Immanuel College
Joanne Horsman	St Philip's
David Whitehead	East Morton, St John's Bierley



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