



Friday, 12th July 2024

Dear Families

I am writing to tell you about some exciting developments.

You may or may not know that Oak Academy is part of an organisation of thirteen schools known as a multi-academy trust.

Being part of a trust brings lots of benefits - one of the most important is schools working together to improve the quality of education for all.

When I joined our trust at the end of February, I spent time listening to students and staff from every school. I saw a broad range of incredible talent and creativity. Previously, there had not been many opportunities for working together, but staff and students are keen to do so.

In May, we ran student workshops to find out the most important values that enable students to achieve their goals. We also discussed how they would like to work together. And, for the first time ever, over 120 people from across the trust joined staff workshops to create our new values and vision statement:

Together, we are:

Courageous

Innovative

Excellent

As we began working together, there was a real keenness for positive change in relation to our trust's name. We discussed perspectives on who we are today, the education we want to provide and how we want to work together. Bringing all ideas together, we are delighted to share with you the new name of our trust:

Authentic Education

AUTHENTIC EDUCATION

Fay MacRitchie, Chief Executive Officer

Alison Beane, Chair of Trustees

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Courageous Innovative Excellent



When schools reopen in September, we will officially start using our new name. You'll notice some visual differences – in signage and in our new websites that have been completely redeveloped to make browsing a much better experience. Crucially, over the course of the year, there will be lots more opportunities for staff across different schools to work together, and we have some exciting family and community creative projects planned.

I really look forward to meeting many of you – I'll be around during parents' evenings, and we'll also be holding forums whereby we can meet to share ideas around specific initiatives and feedback across our trust. I'll also be keeping in touch via a new quarterly newsletter.

In the meantime, I thank you for your support and I wish you all an enjoyable summer holiday. I very much look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

My very best wishes,

Fay MacRitchie
CEO, Authentic Education

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