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The Societas Trust

Great Learning Opportunities for All!

Annual Report to Parents and Carers 2021–2022

Our Settings:

- ALSAGERS BANK PRIMARY
- ASH GREEN PRIMARY
- CARMOUNTSIDE PRIMARY
- ELLISON PRIMARY
- GLADSTONE PRIMARY
- GOLDENHILL PRIMARY
- OAKLANDS NURSERY
- SUMMERBANK PRIMARY

With approx. 2,400 children and 400 staff across North Staffordshire.



Thank you for choosing to send your child to a Societas Trust setting.

We value our partnership with you, your children and the wider communities we serve.

The Societas Trust is still a relatively young organisation, formed in 2015 and incorporated in February 2016.

Since then, we have grown steadily in size and reputation; all sharing a belief that the needs of children are best met when schools and teachers collaborate and cooperate, sharing expertise, knowledge and resources whilst maintaining close links with the communities they serve.

Our Main Priorities for 2021-2022

Were to:

- Support children so that they make up for lost teaching as a result of the pandemic.
- Improve pupils' questioning and reasoning skills, their search for alternative perspectives, connections and critical thinking using a recognised approach—Philosophy for Children.
- Support the mental health and emotional well-being of all.
- Ensure that all staff and governors continue to have the expertise and the ambition necessary to fulfil their roles.
- Ensure that each setting has a rich, inspiring and highly stimulating curriculum with highly memorable and influential learning experiences.

The Societas Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with registration number 09987031



Alsagers Bank Primary



Ash Green Primary



Carmountside Primary



Ellison Primary



Gladstone Primary



Goldenhill Primary



Oaklands Nursery



Summerbank Primary

The RUGS is the name for our MAT Student Council. It stands for 'Really Useful Generation Students' Group and they are ambassadors for our Trust.

Its membership is two children from each setting.

This year the RUGS have had opportunity to:

Engage in a Teambuilding exercise at Standon Bowers;

Explore the Trust Values and to think of what they mean to the children of the Trust;

Discuss what each child's entitlement for learning should be across the Trust;



Organise a competition, taking place across all settings, to design a commemorative mug to mark the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee and the Queen's passing;

Lead a design competition for winners medals; later to be awarded at the Trust Commonwealth Games;

Report events that have taken place across each of their settings via a newspaper article;

Receive training from our media consultant and to report on the collaborative events taking place this year.

We are appreciative of our dedicated staff and governors.

We award those who have achieved 25 years' continuous public service each year.

This year we have six staff who have achieved this milestone: each will receive a voucher for £150 and a day off work.



Collaborative Events:

Children's Shakespeare Festival



Children from The Societas Trust performed 'Something Wicked this Way Comes' (adapted from Shakespeare's Macbeth) on two occasions at the New Vic Theatre in March 2022.



Commonwealth Games



On 1st July 2022, our family of schools met for a morning of fun and games at Stoke City FC Academy-The Dome.

Year 6 pupils from Goldenhill Primary Academy and Matilda English, one of our RUGS' Reporters.

Congratulations to the settings that were inspected by Ofsted this year.

The Ofsted Inspectors' reports highlight the growing strength and success of our settings.

Well done to:

- Ash Green Primary Academy (May 2022)
- Carmountside Primary Academy (July 2022)
- Gladstone Primary Academy (May 2022)
- Summerbank Primary Academy (February 2022)



Staff Conference

We welcomed all teaching, teaching support staff, members, directors and special guests to our biennial conference that took place at Keele Hall on 8th April 2022.

'Wellbeing and More'

'Workload needs to be taken seriously. It is not just a well-being issue, it is about focusing our efforts on the most important agenda item in schools today – the development of an ambitious curriculum for every child, in every school.' Mary Myatt



Improving Our Buildings and Grounds

Each year, we can bid for capital funding from the Government's Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) to improve our buildings and grounds. We have been very successful over the last few years.

Ellison Primary Academy received approx. £400k additional funding over two years to replace their ancient heating system.

Summerbank Primary Academy has had a new entrance to the building due to receiving an additional £170k as a result of their successful bid.



Goldenhill Primary Academy received an additional £155k to improve the entrance, also adding additional meeting rooms and toilet facilities.



The
National
College®

This year we have also:

- Provided the necessary funds to all of our settings for staff training, enrichment opportunities for children and other collaborative projects;
- Benefited from further significant savings through joint procurement projects;
- Provided a wide range of training and coaching to our leaders and governors, including access to the National College Training Hub and School Bus;
- Completed safeguarding and financial audits with flying colours – well done to our Central Team, Headteachers, Business Managers and staff!
- Provided a Wellbeing Day for all staff across the Trust;
- Provided network and mentor support for Early Career Teachers, Subject Leaders, Academy Business Managers and Headteachers new to the Trust;
- Moderated and quality assured standards across the Trust using internal and external support;
- Engaged in Multi-Academy Trust networks as part of our self-review and evaluation practices, and staff professional development;
- Introduced a Cycle to Work Scheme for all staff;
- Successfully moved all our settings onto a Cloud based finance and budgeting solution and Management Information System (MIS).

We hope this report is useful in helping you to get to know more about the exciting things we are doing for your children and your communities.

If you would like to find out more please visit www.societatrust.org.uk.

Mr. Jon Lovatt (CEO, The Societas Trust)