

# Market Drayton Learning Partnership

Newsletter Feb 2015



Market Drayton  
Infant School



## Becoming a Foundation Trust

For a number of years the town schools have worked in collaboration for their mutual benefit. This has included joint curriculum development, school improvement strategies, transition work, staff professional development, and joint policy development. Headteachers and governing bodies wanted to protect and strengthen this collaboration and last summer consulted widely on a proposal to form the **Market Drayton Learning Partnership** as a Co-operative Learning Trust.

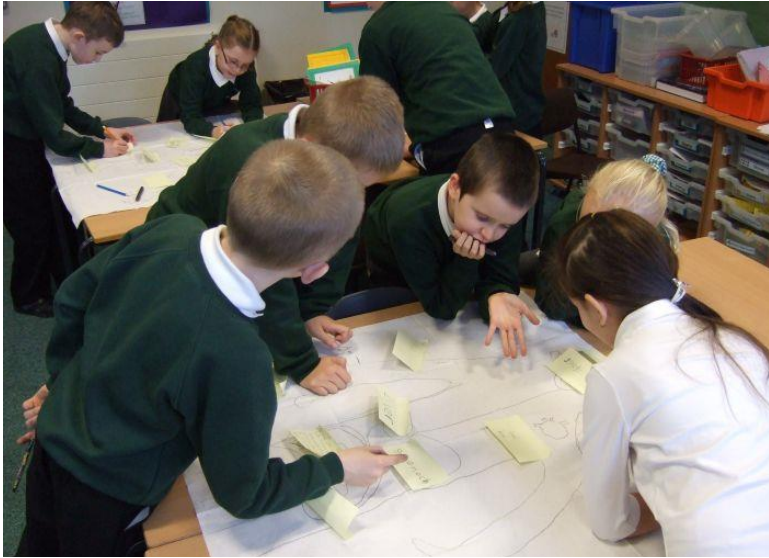
This Trust was formally established on 1 December 2014. Over the coming months Trustees will be working with staff, pupils, parents and other partners to develop the learning partnership and build on the ways the schools work together to help all of them improve.

- A group will draft a development plan covering the main aims of the Trust, for consultation with staff, pupils, parents, and other partners.
- The plan will include ways to recruit the Trust's membership, and create a stakeholder forum.
- A second group will plan a launch event (see below).
- The Trust will produce regular newsletters to inform about progress.

## Work underway in the Partnership's teaching and learning action plan this year

- Sharing good practice and developing consistency across the schools to ensure the best for all pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including establishing a partnership SEND parents group.
- Using Talk for Writing and developing consistency in expectations and assessment of reading and writing to improve attainment and progress in literacy across all the schools.
- Developing a common approach to the teaching of number and calculation. Consistency in assessment, increased parent engagement, and improved transition arrangements are aimed at raising attainment and progress.





## Learning Partnership Launch Event

Trustees have put **Friday 3 July** in their diaries for a launch event. This is likely to involve fun learning activities in each of the three schools and then a coming together of all pupils at Grove School, with parents and partners in the community invited.

Activities could range from a mini sporting Olympiad to a scratch choir; from science demonstrations to short drama productions; from team calculation challenges to a multi-generation spelling bee. The aim will be to come together across the partnership to enjoy a range of learning activities and demonstrations of achievement, with the accent on fun, and with something for everyone. John Hargreaves will be meeting with staff volunteers soon to start planning. If you have ideas to share, or would like to help with the organising, please contact him ([john.woodnote@btinternet.com](mailto:john.woodnote@btinternet.com)).

## Values

Co-operative organisations throughout the world share a set of values that give them their distinctive character. These are: self help , self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. They also believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. As the Market Drayton Learning Partnership develops, consideration will be given to how these values mesh with each school's existing values, and how they can best underpin work to raise aspirations and achievements, now and for the future.

**The vision** of the Market Drayton Learning Partnership is **“to work as a community to support our children and young people in their enjoyment of learning, raising their aspirations and their achievements as learners now and for the future.”**

## Our Partnership Trustees (so far!)

The Headteacher and Chair of Governors from each school are our current trustees. They will be joined in time by representatives of the trust's partner organisations and our stakeholder forum..

Top to bottom, left to right: Peter Ingham and Sonia Taylor (Grove School), Kiami Holt-Williams and Tim Hayward (Junior School), John Hargreaves and Sam Scott (Infant School).

As an Academy, Longlands Primary School cannot be a member of the Trust but intends continuing its collaboration with us on the town schools teaching and learning action plan.

