

# Canonium News

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Telephone: 01376 570411

Email: [admin@canoniumtrust.com](mailto:admin@canoniumtrust.com)



To give every child the very best education possible.

Opportunity

Challenge

Integrity

## CEO's Message

What a busy yet enjoyable half term it has been! A big thank you to each of the schools for your warm welcome as I officially took on the role of CEO at Canonium Learning Trust at the start of September.

The purpose of this newsletter and those that will follow is to share recent news and provide an update on the strategic direction of Canonium Learning Trust.

In March 2022, the Department for Education (DfE) released a white paper titled: Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child. Within this paper the benefits of schools being part of 'strong trusts' is highly regarded. In response, Canonium Learning Trust has been reflecting on how we can keep on getting better and set ambitious plans for the future.

If you have any questions regarding the information shared in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the email address at the top of the page.

Kind regards,

Lois Osborne

## Special Visitors

This half term we have already welcomed two special visitors to schools within Canonium Learning Trust.

A big thank you to The Bishop of Chelmsford, The Rt Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, who visited Kelvedon St Mary's C of E Primary Academy to deliver a thought-provoking assembly linked to their school value of responsibility.

Thank you also to Rt Hon Priti Patel MP, who endorsed the importance of staying safe online to our pupils.

## Purpose and Principles

Our Purpose and Principles of Canonium Learning Trust were launched at our conference in September 2022. While we celebrate the distinctive ethos, character and values of each of our schools, we are united by our shared purpose and our principles that explain how we work.

### Our Purpose:

**To give every child the very best education possible.**

We enable every child to fulfil their potential and nurture an enthusiasm for learning. Our children leave our schools equipped for future challenges and success so they can make positive choices in life and a genuine contribution to society.

### Our Principles:

#### Opportunity

**We work smartly and make the most of every opportunity to be a team player in delivering an outstanding, inclusive and well-rounded education experience for all.**

- Collaboration at every level between individuals, teams and academies ensures expertise from across the trust is shared to achieve the best possible outcomes for all pupils.
- Continuous professional development at all levels enables every member of staff to add value and underpins our commitment to retaining and developing talent.
- Evidence-based innovation thrives, staff are trusted to develop their practice, test the impact and share their findings.

#### Challenge

**We strike the right balance between autonomy and consistency so we can challenge ourselves to keep getting better at the things that matter most.**

- Teaching and learning is prioritised in every school as the most important improvement activity.
- Leaders foster a culture of learning where staff further their practice through coaching, modelling and enquiry led learning.
- Feedback from pupils, parents and stakeholders is an integral part of assessing schools' performance and progress.

#### Integrity

**We have the courage and integrity to do the right thing, resist excuses and treat others with fairness and respect.**

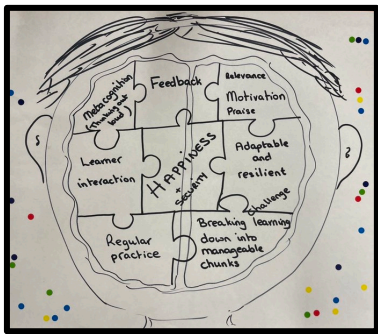
- We set high standards for ourselves and others.
- We are reliable and trusted professionals, who role model fairness, respect and effective communication.
- We are responsible and accountable for all our actions.

To give every child the very best education possible.

Opportunity	Challenge	Integrity
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Learning Model

As part of our commitment to prioritising what matters most, time was dedicated at our Canonium Learning Trust Conference to consolidate our understanding of the learning process and related concepts from cognitive science. The diagram below was voted the best for encapsulating the elements that must be considered by the practitioner in order to deliver effective learning opportunities.



Core Drivers

To achieve our shared purpose, we are establishing Core Drivers where we will add our greatest efforts to secure excellent practice across Canonium Learning Trust:

- **Carefully crafted curriculums** – we will be using what we know about the cognitive science behind the learning process to further develop individual school curriculums so they remain ambitious, inclusive, relevant and exciting for all learners. We know that strong readers are best placed to access the broader curriculum and so all our schools will be relentless in ensuring all children can read fluently with good comprehension.
- **Purposeful assessment** – we want to know and understand every child well, so that we can identify their starting point and support or challenge them to reach their fullest potential. We will be devising a coherent assessment strategy across Canonium Learning Trust, that enables us to not only accurately measure and report on a child’s performance, but most importantly inform next steps for learning and success.
- **Adaptive instruction** – the best leaders and teachers adapt their instruction to the context and individual. We will be drawing on evidence-based instruction to inform leadership and pedagogy at all levels so that our teams are prepared to deliver the very best education possible.

Successful Finance Audit

A big thank you to Mrs Barker and Mrs Smale who ensured another successful annual finance audit for Canonium Learning Trust. The management systems in place were highly regarded by the auditors.

With rising energy bills and staff costs, faced by every school and multi-academy trust – sustainable financial management continues to be crucial. We are in the process of appointing a Chief Finance and Operations Officer to further enhance the leadership of this priority area so we remain in a strong position.

Best Practice Review

Strong governance underpins strong multi-academy trusts. We are incredibly fortunate to have dedicated and highly skilled members within our Board and local committees. As part of best practice, we are conducting a governance review to maintain our commitment to growing a strong culture of scrutiny and challenge around school improvement at all levels.

Increased Leadership Capacity

To fully embed our purpose, principles and drivers so that we further develop as a strong and secure multi-academy trust, we are increasing our leadership capacity within schools.

We are delighted to announce, that Mr Hawrylak, who is a capable leader with a proven track record, has been appointed as Executive Headteacher. He will continue to lead Stisted C of E Primary Academy whilst also providing strategic leadership at Finchingfield St John the Baptist C of E Primary Academy. Within his new role, he will also further support the development of Canonium Learning Trust.

We are in the process of recruiting for Head of School positions at Stisted C of E Primary Academy and Kelvedon St Mary’s C of E Primary Academy, Nursery and Autism Support Centre. These new positions will ensure the operational day to day running of the schools remains strong, while Mr Hawrylak and Mrs Osborne are leading on trust-wide development initiatives.

*We wish you all a happy and safe half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back for another productive half term of learning and achievement.*