



Dear colleagues of the Ouseburn Learning Trust,

We thought we would send you a short note to update you on the work and the function of the Trust in 2023. It is nine years since the Ouseburn Learning Trust was first created and quite a few things have changed over the years.

We continue to work together to achieve our mission. "The Ouseburn Learning Trust is a charitable company of seven schools. The Trust benefits our pupils, schools and the community. Through a unique collaboration of its members, the Trust raises aspirations and attainment in our diverse young people, by delivering consistently high-quality teaching and inspirational life experiences."

When the OLT was first set up, we involved five partner organisations, who each had a Trustee on the Board. As time went on, it became more difficult to engage these partners in the day to day running of our schools and so, following discussion with the partners and Newcastle City Council, we agreed to remove these organisations from the Board. The organisations were happy with this decision and all offered to continue to support the OLT should we need them. The Ouseburn Learning Trust Board now has thirteen full members and two affiliated members from Christ Church Primary School, which is a church school. Each school has their Headteacher and one member of their Governing Body. There is also a trustee who works for Newcastle City Council.

Probably the biggest difference in the OLT is that when Jesmond Park Academy was formed, they could no longer be part of the Trust. The great news is that Steve Campbell, JPA's Headteacher, still attends our Headteacher meetings and is keen to continue to work with us.

Meetings have continued throughout COVID and beyond between members of the Trust schools. Headteachers, Deputies, SENCos, Early Years Teams and School Business Managers all meet regularly. We also hold moderation meetings for teachers in SATs years. This year, the Deputies have developed a series of three joint twilight sessions to look at some common issues in teaching and we hope to extend this to involve support staff in the future.

Sport events continue between our schools and the second Heaton Shakespeare Festival at The People's Theatre is being planned after a very successful first year.

If you have any thoughts about the work of the Trust or ideas about how we might change what we do, then please speak to your Headteacher.