

Future Forward

Excellence and innovation
in education



Our Strategic Plan
2025-2030



Northern Star
Academies Trust

Foreword



Education is the key to our future: as individuals, as communities and as a country. Education enables our children and young people to interpret the world around them and

to acquire the knowledge and skills to shape it for the better.

That is why our trust strategy is focused explicitly on the future. The children starting their learning journey in our schools' reception classes in 2025 will not begin jobs and careers until 2040. If they live to an average age, they will see the turn of the next century. The education that NSAT schools provide today is the foundation stone for lifetimes.

As Chair of Trustees, it has been a great privilege to work with colleagues across the organisation to shape our shared strategy for the next five years. I am looking forward to continuing working together as we navigate that future.

Helen Murphy
Chair of Trustees



Our five-year strategy, *Future Forward*, defines our commitment to empowering the next generation as the change-makers of tomorrow.

Future Forward builds on the achievements of Northern Star Academies Trust. It celebrates and strengthens our culture of collective efficacy and inspires us to be bold and visionary in our continued endeavour to adapt to meet the evolving needs of our schools and communities.

We are fully committed to equipping children and young people with the knowledge and skills needed to address global challenges, including safeguarding our increasingly fragile planet.

As a Trust Partnership, this strategy will support us to cultivate curricula that build resilience, creativity, self-esteem, self-care and relationships. To succeed, we will focus our efforts on equity and inclusion, actively seeking to attract a culturally diverse workforce which thrives on being engaged in their school communities.

Together, we will be *dynamic* and *future-focused*, committed to achieving innovation and excellence in education.

Jenn Plews
Chief Executive



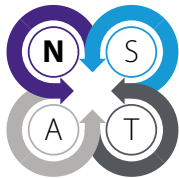


This strategy is more than a roadmap; it is a call to action for innovation, creativity and the courage to re-think what has gone before.

It is a recognition that the challenges of the future cannot always be met with the tools of the past. In an era of evolving needs in education, we must not only respond to change but lead the way – creating environments where every child can thrive, dream big and develop the skills to navigate an uncertain yet exciting future.

At times our strategy will challenge us to step outside our comfort zones and embrace the future with open minds and determined hearts. It calls on us to shape schools that nurture curiosity, ignite passion, and cultivate a sense of purpose in every child, regardless of their background. That is our mission.

Our mission: to nurture learning in a sustainable environment so that our whole community can thrive, aspire and succeed.



Strategic Objectives: 2025-2030

NURTURE

We will invest to give children the best start.

Our ambition is to become a beacon of high-quality early education, known for the excellence of our provision for the youngest children in our schools. We are doing this because we know that children's life chances depend heavily on their development in their earliest years. High quality early education is an effective investment in each child's long-term future.

What will this look like?

- The early education **curriculum** in our schools will draw on the best available research and practice to give children the best start to learning.
- Our **early education teams** will be recognised for their expertise and innovative practice which provides children with a solid foundation for learning.
- Our **learning environments** will stimulate children's creativity and imagination.
- At each stage of transition, children will have the **knowledge and skills** they need for the next step in their education, eager and excited to continue learning.

If we are successful, NSAT primary schools will be known for the exceptional quality of the early education they offer. Parents will choose our schools for the outstanding foundation in learning they provide for their children.



The best start for every child from day one

Future change-makers for a sustainable world



Strategic Objectives: 2025-2030 **SUSTAIN**

We will empower children and young people to become change-makers for a sustainable future and a better world.

We are committed to promoting sustainable environmental practices through education and action. We will embed a “green growth” learning entitlement for every child and young person in our schools, empowering them to engage meaningfully with their communities and the wider world in our use of the earth’s resources. We are doing this because sustainable communities and environments are crucial for fostering social cohesion. We are investing in the future that our young people will inherit.

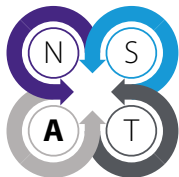
What will this look like?

- **Climate change education** will be reflected across curricula, enabling children and young people to understand and address current and future challenges.
- We will forge **educational partnerships** that give young people opportunities to research environmental challenges and explore solutions.
- All children and young people in our schools will experience **good quality outdoor learning and real-world experiences**, contributing to positive mental health as well as enhanced education outcomes.

- Our schools will contribute to **social inclusion** projects designed to support sustainable communities.

If we are successful, our schools will be recognised for their commitment to community engagement and climate change education, nurturing children and young people with a strong awareness of the world around them.





Strategic Objectives: 2025-2030

ASPIRE

We will equip children and young people with the knowledge, skills, dispositions and qualifications which provide a springboard to choice and opportunity.

We are ambitious for all children. In preparing children and young people to become the successful leaders of tomorrow who are able to shape their own future, we will ensure they have the qualifications and skills they need. We will support them to move seamlessly to their next chosen stage of education or training and onward into rewarding careers.

We are doing this because success in education is the foundation stone for choice and opportunity in later life.

What will this look like?

- **High quality teaching and learning** in our schools will widen opportunity for our young people, enabling them to choose their preferred route into further study and/or work when they leave us at age 16 or 18.
- **Our curricula will be relevant and engaging for all**, encouraging pupils to take ownership of their own learning and to develop their voice to influence and shape their future.
- Our schools will promote **wellbeing and positive mental health** for children and young people, supporting their development as assured and resilient individuals, able to face future challenges with confidence.

- Schools will find creative ways to engage **parents, carers and families** in children's education, helping to create successful communities.

If we are successful, our schools and trust will be celebrated for maximising the life chances of the children and young people entrusted to our care.



A future of choice and opportunity

Adapting to meet evolving need



Strategic Objectives: 2025-2030

THRIVE

We will shape education which anticipates children's needs, providing learning that is inclusive and liberating.

Our ambition is to build a family of inclusive schools which meets the diverse needs of every child in our classrooms. Children's needs are evolving, so we must evolve as well.

To achieve this, we will empower our educators to deepen their expertise as classroom practitioners and explore opportunities to develop new forms of specialist provision where they are most needed.

What will this look like?

- **We will have a clear strategy for inclusion**, with a shared vision for inclusive provision which engages parent and families as well as partner agencies and other sectors.

- In all our schools, our people will have the **support and development** they need to widen their skills in identifying needs and shaping inclusive learning which enables every child to succeed.
- Our Trust will strive to include **specialist educational provision** which provides high quality education to meet specialist needs.
- Our Trust will be **an advocate for reform and investment** in SEND provision at regional and national level, influencing wider policy change.

If we are successful, our schools will be known for their inclusive approach to learning and our leaders will be recognised for their innovative strategies for adapting education to meet the evolving needs of children.



