BLACKDOWN EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

BELIEF IN EVERY CHILD



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Welcome

WELCOME TO OUR TRUST

Thank you for your interest in this post. Please take some time to have a look at this pack, browse our website and our social media channels and gain a sense of who we are and what we stand for.

We are a highly regarded growing, collaborative and values driven Multi-Academy Trust in the beautiful South West of England. We have a very simple mission which is founded in a belief in the potential of every child.

This is expressed in three clear values:

- Equity
- Opportunity
- Community

Our reputation is built on our inclusive values, our relational approaches and our belief that equity and excellence sit side by side in the best schools. Our drive to genuinely achieve both is at the heart of our approach to school improvement.

Our schools are characterised by a strong ethos, ambitious cultures and compassionate environments. We work across nursery, primary and secondary education and serve predominately market towns and villages. We are close to the coast, and the hills as well as the edge of larger urban areas such as Exeter and Taunton. We have both pockets of affluence and of deprivation in all of our settings and are increasingly ethnically diverse. As such we are completely comprehensive – and proud to be so.

We are lucky enough to employ brilliant people who share our vision, many of whom have started careers with us and stayed to progress these careers. We want people to join us who believe that whatever their role, they can make a difference to the life chances of students. We are totally committed therefore to helping all our staff thrive and fulfil their professional ambitions. A large number of colleagues are currently undertaking leadership development training which ranges from the full suite of NPQs to some more bespoke leadership programmes run through our outstanding network of partners.

We take staff wellbeing seriously and pride ourselves on a family friendly approach across our schools. The best resource we can provide for pupils is highly skilled, happy and fulfilled staff.

We are looking for an individual who shares the same vision and values; if you believe that you have the skills, drive and vision to help us achieve our aims, we would be delighted to receive your application.



LORRAINE HEATH, OBE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





Benefits

We take staff wellbeing seriously and take active steps to reduce workload. We have a wellbeing offer which ranges from gym membership and support with personal fitness to talking therapies and subscribe to a Wellbeing service.

We also allow employees personal days to enable everyone to enjoy some flexibility over attendance and participation in events that they might not otherwise be able to.

We are always willing to consider flexible working requests and job-shares and pride ourselves on a family friendly approach across our schools.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US:

- Eligibility to join excellent pension scheme
- Option to make additional voluntary contributions to pension for local government pension scheme members which can help boost retirement benefits
- Access to a range of continuous professional development opportunities
- Trust wide charity events designed to encourage our people to participate in meaningful activities
- Access to wellbeing provision which offers information and advice on a range of workplace and personal issues
- Flexible working opportunities
- Enhanced special leave provision, including additional time off as part of our 'Personal Day' entitlement which supports employees to achieve a better work/life balance
- Free car parking
- On site catering facilities, all of which provide healthy and nutritious meals at a low cost
- Gym membership. Many of our schools have on-site gyms, the use of which is available to employees at a discounted rate
- Cycle to work scheme which enables employees to purchase a bike and accessories for their commute to work
- Free tea and coffee.



About Us

The Blackdown Education Partnership was formed in 2023 from the merger of two founding trusts: The Castle Partnership Trust and Uffculme Academy Trust. This merger brought together 5 primary and 5 secondary schools in Devon and Somerset. Since that time we continue to grow and are currently a 14 school MAT of 6 primaries, 8 secondaries, 5 pre-schools and one sixth form. We expect further growth in both the primary and secondary phases in the short to medium term.

We are also a strategic partner for SWiFT and run the mid-Devon and Somerset ITT hub on their behalf where we recruit and train the teachers of the future. We believe that education is transformative: it changes lives; and that schools are uniquely placed to engineer social change and deliver social justice through powerfully addressing disadvantage in all its forms. The trust that is placed in us to nurture and support our pupils into flourishing and confident young people is one which we are committed to justifying. We serve a diverse range of communities in Devon and Somerset and are dedicated to working in partnership with everyone invested in these communities to enrich our children's lives and empower them to carve out positive futures for themselves.

LEADERSHIP

Our Central Leadership Team brings together both the Education and Business Functions of the Trust with the sole function of enabling our schools to be better. We continually strive to deliver excellent student and business related outcomes in line with our values and mission. We fully embrace the Nolan Principles of Public Life and understand our core responsibility to advance education for the public benefit.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

We recognise the power of collaboration, networking and sharing the of best practice to harness our collective energies for the benefit of our families and communities.

We run a number of Professional networks which bring positive contributions to our staff and secures powerful professional learning for those taking part. We are well connected to education leaders locally, regionally and nationally and many of our leaders are trustees for other trusts. We believe that we have a collective responsibility for all children and families I our communities irrespective of the schools they attend.



Our Strategy

Our strategic plan has four pillars:

Achieving More Together

A curriculum strategy that delivers for every child in every school underpinned by a professional development framework that enables teachers to be as effective as they can be in their classroom practice.

Securing Equity

A strategy for delivering equity through access, inclusion, targeted support, challenging bias and appropriate resourcing.

Intentional Connections

A strategy for supporting the development of cradle to career programmes, character education, and an enhanced understanding of the world beyond the classroom.

Positive Places; People who Care

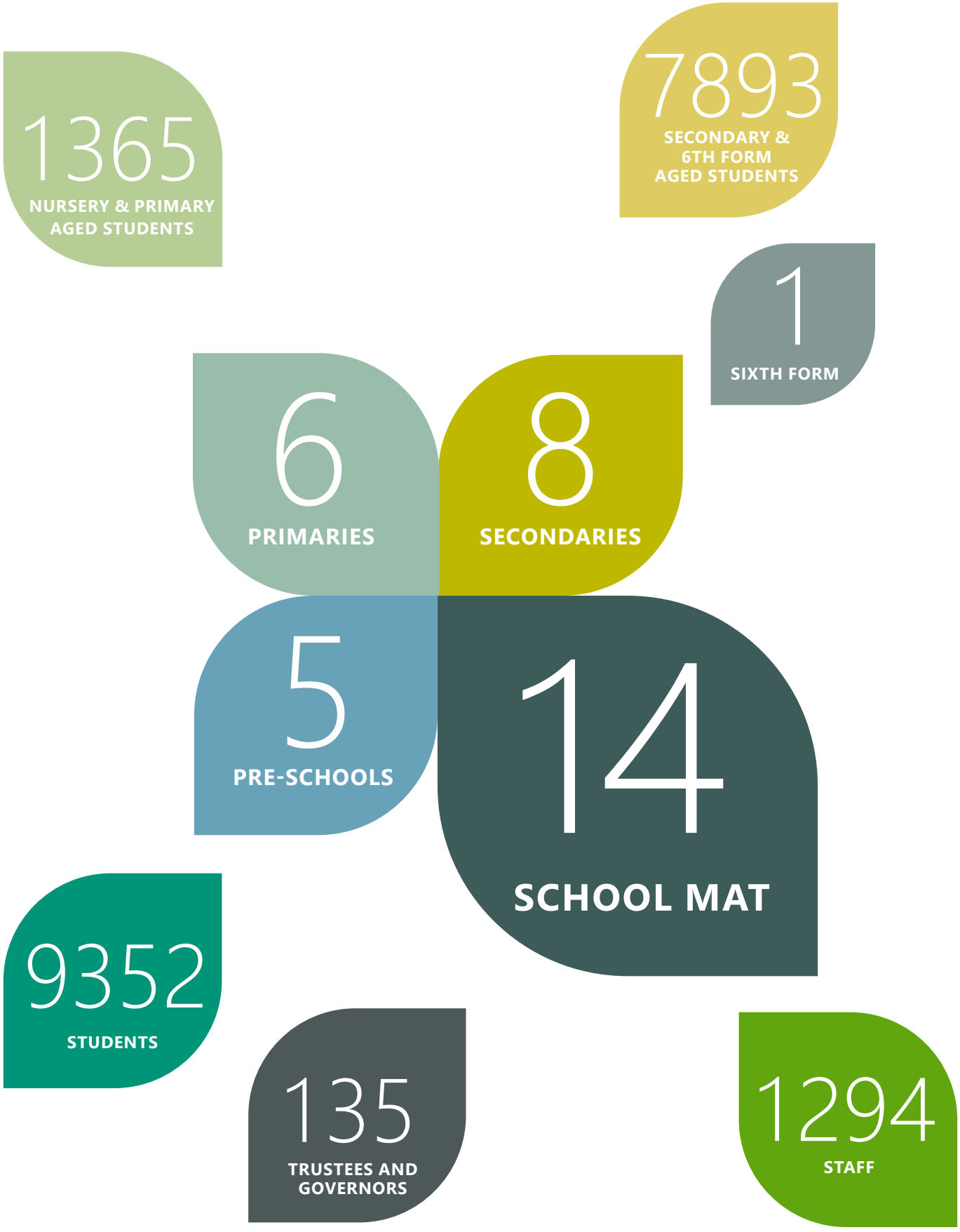
Our people and culture strategy: based around unconditional positive regard, a sense of the school's place in its community and an unrelenting focus on every employee contributing to the delivery of our mission.

GOVERNANCE

Blackdown Education Partnership is governed by Members and Trustees. Members oversee the work of the Trust and are responsible for overarching decisions, and our Trustees are responsible for:

- determining the vision for the Trust and ensuring that its achievement underpins all strategic planning and decision making
- development, review and take ownership of the Trust's strategic and financial plan and monitor its implementation
- ensuing that all schools / academies within the Trust attain high standards and demonstrate at least good progress against national indicators
- ensuring the Trust maintains its vision and values and delivers the outcomes which it has defined for pupils and the Trust.

In numbers


1365
NURSERY & PRIMARY AGED STUDENTS
7893
SECONDARY & 6TH FORM AGED STUDENTS
1
SIXTH FORM
6
PRIMARIES
8
SECONDARIES
5
PRE-SCHOOLS
14
SCHOOL MAT
9352
STUDENTS
135
TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS
1294
STAFF

Our Schools

Axe Valley Academy

Bishops Hull Primary School

Clyst Vale Community College

Cullompton Community College

Court Fields School

Holyrood Academy

IKB

Neroche School

Orchard Grove Primary School

The Castle School

Tiverton High School

Uffculme Primary School

Uffculme School

Excellence is a habit

Wellesley Park WP

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LOCATIONS

All our schools are situated in the beautiful countryside of Devon and Somerset, within easy commuting distance of Exeter to the west and Bristol to the North, being close to some of the most beautiful coastlines of Devon and Dorset.

Our schools' varied locations allow our staff to access not only beautiful beaches, but also some of the best areas for walking, biking and other outdoor activities; yet the cities of Exeter, Bristol and Bath are close by.



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