

New CEO Appointed at DoNESC



The Diocesan services company, DoNESC, will be welcoming their new permanent CEO, Stephen Beeson, into his role on Monday October 2nd.

Stephen brings a wealth of experience from a successful career working in senior finance, procurement, and operation roles.

His early career was spent in the FE college sector and local government. He then moved into the Academy sector, working for Drapers' Multi Academy Trust in Romford for seven years, ultimately

as Chief Operating Officer.

Most recently he has worked for NHS Hospital Trusts, with his current role being Deputy Director of Finance at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This role has included establishing a vision for, and then delivering, new and improving back-office services in both his Trust and in the other provider Trusts across Norfolk and Waveney.

Stephen has maintained links with education through serving as a MAT trustee at Attain Academy Partnership, chairing their Finance, Risk, Audit and Premises Committee.

Stephen comments, *"I am delighted to have been appointed as the CEO of DoNESC. It is an exciting time to be joining the organisation and I am looking forward to supporting the growth of our MATs and providing the high quality, value for money services that enable them to focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for the children in our schools."*



Diocese of Norwich
Education
Services Company

Message from Nadine Avenal, Trust Improvement Lead for SEND:

Linked to our Trust priority work on supporting vulnerable learners, I would like to draw your attention to a couple of the MI sheets published this week:

- ◇ School census day: **Thursday 5th October** (please ensure your MIS is up -to-date with SEND identification data, Young Carer and EAL information etc). LA no longer supporting academies with census queries - signposting to DfE helpdesk.
- ◇ New FULLY FUNDED programme of **EAL training and support**: <https://csapps.norfolk.gov.uk/csshared/ecourier2/misheet.asp?misheetid=65986>
- ◇ New FULLY FUNDED programme of **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) training and support**: <https://csapps.norfolk.gov.uk/csshared/ecourier2/misheet.asp?misheetid=65987> Just saying, there's a padlet too! [GRT Cultural Resources \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com/)



I also understand that the Dyslexia Outreach Service (DOS) login details have now been issued to those schools who opted into our MAT membership - any problems please let either myself (nadine.avenal@stbenets.org) or Laura Bates (DOS admin) know.

The Headteacher at Hethersett Primary has asked if any St Benet's schools would like to be part of a sporting competitions group and be invited to inter-school competitions, run by Premier Education and based at either Hethersett Primary or another local school.

If you are interested in this, please contact Matthew Parslow-Williams on head@hethersettprimary.co.uk



Applications for the Learn about Livestock project are now open!

This unique project gives students the chance to experience farming first hand by caring for a ewe and her lamb(s) on school grounds for an entire week.

The Food and Farming Discovery Trust delivers all equipment needed to look after the ewe and lamb(s) including food. Schools involved in the scheme will be given full support regarding risk assessments, 24-hour telephone support and expert veterinary assistance. A compulsory briefing session is also provided prior to the event, to enable you to ask questions and familiarise yourself with the staff and the animals.



Places **are limited** and the application deadline is **Friday 10th November 2023**. Schools are required to have a small, grassed area upon which a 10ft x 15ft pen for the animals can be accommodated and participating schools will be asked to provide a £250 contribution.

Please follow the link for more information and to learn how to register your interest: <https://forms.gle/fMKYbprfWCq2XHfz6>

If you would like to find out more about past projects, please follow this link: <https://ffdt.co.uk/explore/learn-about-livestock-2023>



Prayer for the Day

The Church of England have an app called Time to Pray, which releases a new prayer twice a day as a short podcast. Today's prayer can be heard [here](#).



Trust Information

Central Team Contact Details

The Diocese of Norwich Education Team (St Benet's, DNEAT, DoNESC) are based at **Orchard House, Hall Lane, East Tuddenham, Norfolk NR20 3LR**. This is also the registered address for St Benet's MAT.

The central phone number for St Benet's is **01603 550147**.



Press & PR

Our PR Officer, **Kate Morfoot**, should be your first point of contact for any press/media enquiries or if you have any good news stories from your academy which you would like to publicise. Her contact details are: **07803 590 728** (inc out of hours) and press@stbenets.org.



Footprints & Schools Flyer

Footprints magazine and the Schools Flyer are circulated to all Diocesan schools. The latest editions can be read [here](#).

If you would like your school to be featured in Footprints please contact Holly Davy, PA to the Diocesan Director of Education, at holly.davy@dioceseofnorwich.org.

Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: www.stbenets.org. Please email your vacancies to: robyn.redman@donesc.org.



Operational Updates from DoNESC

DoNESC (Diocese of Norwich Education Services Company) provide St Benet's with back office services including HR, Finance, Payroll, Governance and Estates.

BROADBAND



New Broadband Supplier

As you may be aware, Capita / NCC will be ceasing their Broadband service from March 2024.

We have a new Broadband contract in place with Rydal Communications and we are working with them at the moment with a phased rollout plan that will be actioned over the coming months.

Once this schedule is completed, we will be in touch with each school individually and they will be working with you and us very closely to ensure that there is no disruption to your Broadband supply.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact: wendy.allso@donesc.org

Help Desk - Procedures for Finance Processing and Management Accounts

Thank you all so much for using the new Help Desk this week.

Following on from feedback received, please note the slight changes in processes with regards to the Finance Department.

Please continue to log all queries and questions on the Helpdesk.

However, please note that the following information will need to be sent directly to the relevant Finance team, to avoid unnecessary uploading and downloading of files.

Management Accountants - please forward items to your MA that do not need a response, or are part of a process that needs to be continued with another department (such as recruitment requests). Also, if your MA comes to you to request information, please reply to that directly, not through the Help Desk.

Finance Processing - please forward invoices, financial statements etc to the Finance inbox (finance@donesc.org) as before. Use the Help Desk for requests for information and queries.

A polite reminder - if queries are sent to DoNESC team members directly you will be asked to raise these on the Help Desk instead.

It is likely that further tweaks and improvements will be made to the Help Desk as we move forward, and you will be kept posted on these as and when they happen.

Thank you for your support with the rollout of the Help Desk and we hope that the transition is proving to be smooth. If you have any comments / suggestions about the Help Desk, please do not hesitate to contact: wendy.allso@donesc.org



Safeguarding Update

From Louise Veeren, Head of Safeguarding



Safeguarding

- Never think you have done enough in creating a safer culture
- Always believe it could happen here
- Keep safeguarding high on everyone's agenda
- Never rely on one process to keep children safe

DSL Network Meeting

Thank you to those that attended the DSL Network Meeting, it was great to see so many of you and I really look forward to next time we meet. If anyone has any pertinent topics they wish to have included in agenda then email me with suggestions at louise.veeren@donesc.org.

Bystander Intervention Programme

The Local Authority is currently running a free training programme to tackle sexual language in schools. I attended the training and highly recommend that schools attend. You would need to send a member of staff for the day training, staff in school complete a survey online, then this person would train the staff in the school which could be done as part of a twilight session - potentially 1.5 hours, could be split over two. Then there are two lessons which are all good to go and would be incorporated as part of PSHEE.

It trains children and staff to address and call out sexualised language and how to do so.

There are two dates that are available for training at County Hall (22nd Nov and 12th Dec - bookable on the usual LA training pages) but the trainer has said she would run another session and would travel to a venue of ours too. If you are interested but are not able to get to those two dates then email me at louise.veeren@donesc.org and I will then organise something for the Trust if there is enough interest.

The impact of this is society wide....this is also great evidence to show how we are tackling this huge issue within our schools.

HSB Training

Belinda Allen, the Executive Headteacher of Hope Federation, attended the LA HSB training (again highly recommended) and has been advised by them that they will offer bespoke training if schools want, contact them on hsbproject@norfolk.gov.uk and they will be able to discuss what individual schools require.

Single Central Record

There are always lots of questions on the SCR, we now have a Trust template and information on the roll-out of this with HR support will be available soon. If in the meantime you would like me to check your SCR against the new template then please email to arrange a time. The template is very similar to what we already use. Please remember that you must check your SCR and record that you are doing so and actions.