

The newsletter for schools in St Benet's MAT



Issue No: 64 16.02.24

Alburgh with Denton Primary Celebrate Fantastic SIAMS Report

Alburgh with Denton CofE Primary Academy was inspected by SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) on 25th January 2024.

The final report was issued last week and is a glowing endorsement of the school's Christian vision and ethos. Quotes from the report include:

"The meaningful, relevant Christian vision inspires the school community at Alburgh with Denton to flourish and grow."

"Leaders equip pupils in this small school to be inquisitive, confident citizens. Everyone is motivated to work together and are well supported and nurtured in this inclusive environment." "Underpinning this are carefully selected values of hope, forgiveness and justice. The vision is integral to daily life and the strategic direction of the school."

"Dedicated leaders ensure all opportunities to broaden learning are taken. In this nurturing school individuals feel cared for."

Headteacher Leigh Goodhew, pictured here with pupils who met the SIAMS Inspector, commented:



"Our aim is to enable every person in our school community, whether child or adult, to flourish and be the best person they can be. This very positive report clearly shows that this is lived and breathed in our school and I am incredibly proud of the outcome."

"It is lovely that our vision and values have been so clearly seen in our school. We have great relationships with our parents, a fantastic hard-working team of staff, excellent supportive church links and wonderful enquiring pupils, which was epitomised when the inspector said that excellent relationships bind the school together."

B-Comms is the fortnightly newsletter for Church of England schools who are Members or Approved Members of St Benet's Multi Academy Trust: Acle Primary, Alburgh with Denton Primary, Dickleburgh Primary & Pre-school, Diss Junior Academy, Diss Infant Academy & Nursery, Garboldisham Primary, Harleston Sancroft Academy, Little Plumstead Primary, Morley Primary, Newton Flotman Primary, Scole Primary, St Mary's Junior and Tacolneston Primary.

Schools working with us through the DfE's TSIO programme are: Carleton Rode & Forncett Federation, Lighthouse Federation (Happisburgh Primary / St Mary's Endowed Primary); Pulham Primary, Swallowtail Federation (Catfield Primary / Hickling Infant / Sutton Infant) and Worstead Primary.

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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 <u>here</u>.



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 or you can email** the Central Team via info@stbenets



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 <u>here</u>.

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**.



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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 Migration Update

NCC's broadband services will officially cease on 31st March and the roll-out of the Rydal broadband for all schools across the Trust is continuing with more than half fully migrated and live now.

The majority of the work behind the scenes that has involved BT has now been carried out and we are looking at the rest of the schools to be fully transferred across by the end of the second week of March.

We are aware that there were a couple of days last week where there were some filtering and speed issues for some schools, and I am pleased to say that these appear to be satisfactorily sorted out now and are continuing to be monitored by Rydal.

If you have any queries, please contact:

wendy.allsop@donesc.org or schools.support@rydal-group.co.uk





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Governance Update

Governance support both centrally and across all Trust schools is provided by DoNESC's Governance Team, led by Head of Governance Hannah Monk (centre) and with support from Tara Burrows, St Benet's Governance Officer (right) and Dawn Knights, DNEAT Governance Officer and Training Facilitator (left).

Governor DBS Checks

School offices undertaking DBS checks for Governors and staff may be in receipt of invoices for both paid and voluntary positions. Please can school office colleagues GRN the lines on the invoices for the paid staff and school-based volunteers and then send the invoice to the Governance Team at <u>governance@donesc.org</u> so we can make sure that governor's checks are paid out of the central budget.

It would also be a great help if, while the invoice is at school level, you can make sure that the correct costs have been assigned to each person on the invoice; Governor and volunteer checks should only ever be charged the £14.00 admin fee. Thank you.

Governance Professional Service - Reminder to Check and Action

For all schools who have a Governance Professional from the Governance Professional Service at Norfolk County Council, please remember to check that you have a subscription set up for the year on the St Benet's MAT terms and conditions. Otherwise, you could be paying over the odds.

To check, please contact the service on <u>governanceprofessionalservice@norfolk.gov.uk</u> or tel: 01603 303324.

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Did you know...

St Benet's pays for all its employees to have free access to the Spectrum.Life employee wellbeing service. If you haven't registered yet, follow the simple instructions below to sign up online.

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The online platform is accessible from this link: <u>https://donesc.spectrum.life/login?org=DoNESC</u>

On the home page you will be asked to enter your name and email address, create a password and choose who you work for from a dropdown menu (you should choose St Benet's) and this will then take you through to the welcome page. If you download the app it will ask for your Organisation Code which is DoNESC. If you have any problems registering, please contact <u>wendy.allsop@donesc.org</u>

The Spectrum.Life service also includes access to 6 free counselling sessions (virtual or face-to-face) via the Employee Assistance Programme, access to a Discount Marketplace, advice on fitness, nutrition and many articles, videos and audios around wellbeing.

There are weekly running guides, advice on stress, diabetes, sleep, menopause, heart health, exercise videos and much more.

B-Comms will focus on some of these specific areas in future issues and your Headteachers will be receiving some promotional material to share with you.

We encourage you to sign up and make use of Spectrum.Life; it's there for your benefit!





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Message from Norfolk County Council

NORFOLK ALTERNATIVE PROVISION STRATEGY

I am writing to you on behalf of Norfolk's AP Steering Group to update you on recent developments relating to alternative provision and to invite you to the next phase of our engagement work together.

You will be aware that the AP Steering Group was set up by Norfolk County Council to bring together a partnership of school and sector leaders and the local authority to support the development of new AP in the secondary phase as part of the Local First Inclusion Programme. The group acts as a strategic forum around AP work and is providing essential support and challenge to Andy Tovell, Nicki Rider and their teams. I am pleased that Olive Academies have been commissioned to support this important work by providing an external perspective, both as a provider of alternative provision in the region and as strategic support to the Department of Education for SEND and AP.

A strong message that has come out of the recent engagement sessions was the fact that real clarity and agreement is needed around inclusion. Therefore, as part of the next stage of this work, two workshops will take place after half term with a choice of dates for each to help with diaries. It will be important to hear your views by attending the sessions as the work is now developing at pace.

Workshop 1: Wednesday, 28 February 2024 (12.00 – 2.00 pm) or Friday, 1 March 2024 (1.30 - 3.30 pm) AIM: 'Developing and agreeing reciprocal expectations for all partners within the AP system.'

Workshop 2: Thursday, 21 March 2024 (12.30 – 2.00 pm) or Friday, 22 March 2024 (9.30 – 11.00 am) AIM: 'Developing a set of core values to promote accountability across the system.'

Please book onto **one** session for workshop 1 **and** workshop 2 using the alternative provision email address: <u>alternativeprovision@norfolk.gov.uk</u>

If you have any questions regarding development of the Norfolk Alternative Provision Strategy or the wider programme, please do not hesitate to contact Andy Tovell, Assistant Director, Inclusion and Opportunity or Nicki Rider, Assistant Director SEND & AP Sufficiency and Strategy via the alternative provision email address: <u>alternativeprovision@norfolk.gov.uk.</u>

If you are interested in learning more about the programme, please use the following link: FAOs

ANGLES MATHS HUB OPPORTUNITY

Every year the NCETM trains new Mastery Specialists to run its Core Programme Workgroups. Applicants may be invited to an interview and, if successful, will begin their national training. Training consists of 3 residential sessions across the year - autumn, spring and summer - in a location central to hubs in our region, which consists of Angles, Cambridge, Essex, Herts and Enigma (Buckinghamshire).

Anyone is welcome to apply. It would particularly suit those who are current or aspiring Maths Leads in their schools, and who are looking to deepen their understanding of Mastery Teaching. Once training is complete, new specialists will become part of their Local Leader of Maths Education (LLME) group, which runs training days and provides a network of support. Specialists will be allocated a Workgroup to lead.

If you would like more information and a link to the application form, please follow this link: <u>https://www.ncetm.org.uk/maths-hubs-projects/primary-mastery-specialists/</u>

Applications close at 5.00pm on Friday 29th March 2024.

If you would like to speak to someone, you can talk to a specialist in the Trust or email Rhys Peterson, Primary Assistant Maths Hub Lead at Angles Maths Hub via <u>rhyspeterson@anglesmathshub.org</u>.



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Upcoming Events

Future events arranged by the Trust will be listed here. Events just for St Benet's North are listed in purple.

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26.02.24			Online SEND Network via Teams (15.45-17.45)		
04.03.24		Diocesan Leader- ship Forum (online) (13.00-16.00)			
11.03.24	MSL Network at Hickling; CUSP Science (15.45-17.15)	Leaders' Forum at Orchard House (HTs only) (09.00- 14.00); CUSP Reading (15.45-17.15)	CUSP Art & Design (15.45-17.15)	CUSP History (15.45-17.15)	
18.03.24	ESL Network at Hickling; CUSP Writing	CUSP Design Technology (15.45-17.15)	CUSP Geography (15.45-17.15)	CUSP Music (15.45-17.15)	
25.03.24	Coaching Training at OH - am is for HTs only, pm is for HTs and Coaches (09.00-16.00)	Coaching Workshop at OH for HTs and Coaches (09.00-16.00)		EASTER	

Many of you will recently have completed Walkthrus Pathway training, held over the last 4 months at Sancroft Primary Phase.

The Trust wishes to thank everyone who attended these twilight sessions and to extend special thanks to Nadine Avenal, Jane Price, Laura Richardson and Kelly Stokes for all their hard work in preparing and running the training sessions.

We wish all our staff a happy and relaxing half-term break.