



Shaping Positive Futures

December 2022



Wishing you a

Merry Christmas





Wishing you all a **Merry** **Christmas**



Have a very happy and peaceful Christmas, enjoying your time with family and friends.”

Welcome to the December edition of our Trust newsletter, where the size of my Christmas hat will leave you in no doubt that we are approaching the festive season!



The term has flown by with so much activity and positive impact being made to support our learners. I have continued to enjoy my regular visits into schools and particularly welcome the moments when I get to meet our learners face to face and find out what makes them tick. I am incredibly proud of the work each and every one of you do to support our learners, both in and outside the classroom.

This newsletter is filled with, as ever, just some highlights as there have been too many to capture this term. One definite highlight for me was our Shaping Positive Futures staff CPD day in October. Over 1000 colleagues were able to gather together across three of our school sites, and it created a very special atmosphere. The feedback received showed that the vast majority of staff found

the event relevant and agreed that it provided a welcome opportunity for discussion with their peers. This was evident at the end of the day when I was delighted to see that some staff seemed reluctant to leave, as they were still engaged in conversation with colleagues!

Following on from this, on our return in January, we will be holding our first ever Learner Conference, more details below, and this promises to be a fantastic event.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your hard work and commitment this term. I very much look forward to working with you and continuing to drive forward our priorities in the new year.

Have a very happy and peaceful Christmas, enjoying your time with family and friends.

Kind regards
Lizann

Learner Conference January 2023

We're looking forward to the Trust's first ever Learner Conference which will be held on Thursday 12 January at the University of Hull with a theme of Diversity and Inclusion.

There will be a keynote speech by Martin from The Art of Brilliance who was warmly received at our staff CPD event, followed by workshops designed to allow the learners, from Year 1 to sixth form, the opportunity to share ideas with each other and work together to create a new Make a Positive Difference Award for the Trust.

Julia Lovel and Claire Gordon



Christmas wishes

As we approach the Christmas break, it is wonderful to read about all the festive activities that our learners have taken part in across our schools.

Christmas comes at the end of what I know has already been a busy term, and this on top of our everyday priorities, so I truly appreciate the effort it takes to go the extra mile, continuing to support our children and young people in the classroom whilst celebrating Christmas. Learners from young to old have taken part in nativities, church carol services, Christmas lunches, charity fundraisers such as Save the Children's Christmas

Jumper Day and Dove House's Elf Run, as well as our sixth form students taking the lead in community-based Christmas light switch-ons. This enriches their lives, helps to build strong, positive relationships between our staff and young people and creates happy memories for all. On behalf of the Trust Board, thank you for your hard work and continued efforts to make a positive difference to the lives of our learners.

I hope you all enjoy the Christmas festivities and I wish everyone a peaceful break with family and friends.

Ian Furlong,
Chair of the Trust



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Team highlights...

Cottingham

November saw Cottingham's first reading week of the year, with a focus on mental health and well-being, and how reading can help support our own mental health and well-being.

Students all had assemblies on the benefits of reading, and how we can use reading to help ourselves feel happier, as well as top tips being shared with parents. Other activities throughout the week saw: students being read to by their form tutors; students engaging in articles sending important and valuable messages; watching Michael Morpurgo in Conversation, sharing his inspiration behind the story of War Horse; whole school competitions; and two authors delivered talks about how reading and writing can benefit us in our lives and careers.



Croxby

As a reward for their hard work and confidence in their spelling test, including the Nativity practice, some of our pupils got to decorate their class Christmas tree together!

It is wonderful to see the excitement that activities like these bring as we head towards the end of such a busy term.

Hessle

Our tree of Christmas wishes is coming along nicely, standing in pride of place within the main atrium so it can be seen by all.

It was also lovely to be a part of the Hessle Light Switch on. Our students were an absolute credit to us, the buzz was fantastic, and a great night was had by the whole community.





Holderness

Year 9 held a bake sale to raise money for Cancer Research and raised over £222!!

This was a really successful event and the students who helped on the day upheld our ARRK values of being Aspirational, Resilient, Respectful and Kind superbly.

Howden

The Hull Confucius Institute organised for Qiu Zenghui to give an interactive presentation about the Beijing/Peking Opera to the Chinese Students in Years 7 and 8, the Chinese Whispers Choir and some of the GCSE music students.

The students tried on costumes and learnt about Chinese music, history and culture. They had the opportunity to try out actions, singing and the musical instruments, providing an amazing cultural experience for everyone involved.



Keyingham

Children at Keyingham welcomed Kofi Smiles, Pudsey and Radio Humberside on site for Children in Need.

They all had a great time meeting #pudsey and doing the Macarena! The whole school got involved, our ERP children made a fantastic Children in Need display and the Keyingham Kids Club made #pudsey masks.

Penshurst

Congratulations to those who took part in a very successful Monster Mash (Halloween) Disco at Penshurst.

It is run by the PFA, attended by FS2 through to Year 6 across and manned by volunteer staff. This year, the PFA kindly donated £500 of the profit to Year 5 to help to subsidise our trip to the Warner Bros. Studios in Watford which is part of our Year 5 trip after Christmas.



Winifred

Thirty pupils were given the fantastic opportunity of attending the Rugby League World Cup quarter final at the MKM Stadium.

The first game saw Papua New Guinea Women demolish Brazil 70-0 and then the men's Quarter Finals, which was a tightly contested game with New Zealand just beating Fiji 24-18. This was a brilliant game to witness and allowed pupils to see some of the cultures from other countries, such as Fiji's Noqu Masu and New Zealand's famous haka. All pupils represented the academy impeccably and had great fun – although some were too cool to get a picture with the RugBee!



Wolfreton

The annual Academic Awards Evening took place in The Forum at Wolfreton, celebrating the achievements of students from Year 10 through to Sixth Form, with another event planned for the summer term with a focus on the younger students.

The Fellowship Award for outstanding contribution went to former science teacher and governor Phil Matthews, who is well known by staff across a number of our schools. The evening was a fantastic opportunity for students, parents and staff to come together as a school community and reflect on the success that can be achieved through hard work and commitment.



Sixth Form

Another victory for The Consortium Sixth Form College netball team with a 43-12 win against New College Doncaster with some superb, fast paced netball played.

The only thing that came close to the level of play was the superb new kit, which we played in for the first time!



In the know **internally...**



Shaping Positive Futures 2022 CPD Event



On Friday, 21st October 2022, over 1000 staff gathered over 3 venues, to attend over 60 workshops, meetings, and keynote speaker sessions at our Shaping Positive Futures 2022 CPD event.

From defibrillator training to phonics, from excel spreadsheets to behaviour, the

workshops were wide and varied. Due to your feedback, it was a different approach to previous years. The School Improvement Team tried to ensure the CPD offered was relevant to your roles and to provide opportunities to have conversations with colleagues from other schools. We are extremely pleased with 95% of attendees indicating the event was improved on last year's based on the 334 responses received. Our appreciation

goes to our colleagues who facilitated workshops. Every school in the organisation was represented and without those colleagues the event would not have been a success. The central team would like to acknowledge the number of positive comments they received either on the day or through the feedback. Working together we will Shape Positive Futures for our 8000 children.



Thank you, I know it took a lot of organising; the timing of the sessions allowed for discussion and the keynote speaker really set the tone of what being part of The Consortium Academy Trust is all about."



Questionnaire Results

Was this year's event an improvement on last year's event?



Yes



No

Was the training relevant for your role?



Yes



No

Did the day provide you with opportunities to have discussions with colleagues?



Yes



No

Did you take at least one developmental action away?



Yes



No

General Feedback and Actions Moving Forward



Although the agenda for the teacher meetings in the afternoon had been shared, from the feedback received it is apparent that this was not communicated clearly enough to everyone.

Action: The agenda for future meetings will be sent out directly to all colleagues.

Colleagues appreciated the variety of workshops, with a number asking for more subject specific workshops.

Action: Department leaders to be consulted during the Summer Term to discover what subject specific training they would like at the event.

Although there were many positives comments about the keynote speaker, there was some constructive criticism as well. When organising an event for over 1000 colleagues there is always going to be a variety of opinions. A common piece of feedback was about the length of the keynote speaker sessions.

Action: Keynote speakers in the future will be a maximum of an hour in length.

The team were happy with the sessions delivered for the Teaching and Learning and Pastoral Support staff. However, both from the feedback received and from our own observations, the Support Staff day was comparatively short of relevant workshop options.

Action: Support Staff to be consulted in the Summer Term to discover what training they would like at the event.



Staff across the sites clearly enjoyed spending quality time together."

Great day – loved the key speaker."





ECTs in the spotlight...



As the Autumn term draws to a close it is wonderful to reflect on the progress we have made as a team.

Since our ECT Welcome meeting in September, I have very much enjoyed visiting schools to meet with ECTs in small groups and engage in reflective and evaluative conversations. The team have shared, with enthusiasm, insights into their experiences.

Year 1 ECTs have been busy establishing themselves at the start of their teaching career. Whilst some trained within the school they are currently employed, for most, they are new to the team and have been busy getting to know their colleagues, the learners, school systems,

and processes. For Year 2 ECTs, the majority had joined the Trust last academic year.

A crucial aspect of the entitlement for two years of professional development underpinned by the early career framework (ECF) is the mentor-mentee relationship. Year 1 ECTs and mentors engage in regular lesson drop ins followed by instructional coaching conversations. For Year 2 ECTs, the focus very much surrounds phase and subject, with ECTs and mentors working together on half termly development cycles. Each school ECT team is also supported by a committed and enthusiastic Induction Tutor. Thank you to all ECTs, mentors and Induction Tutors for your hard work and efforts this term.

Our ECT Committee Board has been launched and this includes representation from ECTs, mentors, Induction Tutors, and the Trust ECT Lead. Our first meeting was very successful in providing a channel through which members could communicate ideas for future development and provision.

Next term we look forward to our first formal ECT cross Trust networking events. These will be held in January and demonstrate our commitment to development of ECTs through opportunity to engage in peer-to-peer support.

Additionally, Christmas boxes will be delivered to our ECT teams during the last week of term. We hope they enjoy the treats whilst celebrating their successes.

Angela Murphy – Trust ITT and ECT Lead



Our experienced mentors help to shape the positive futures of our learners and our student teachers.” - Sue Issatt – Induction Tutor - Howden School



Initial Teacher Training in the spotlight...

December marks the close to 18 Initial Teacher Training placements across our primary and secondary schools.

ITT colleagues have enjoyed working within KS1 and across a range of secondary subjects. It was great to receive evaluative feedback from the ITTs who were able to attend our end of placement Christmas social. Christmas nibbles and coffee were enjoyed whilst trainees exchanged stories about their experiences. It was particularly positive to hear trainees had thoroughly enjoyed working with their mentors and

departmental colleagues and that they had felt welcomed and supported. Trainees will continue to provide formal feedback through completion of a survey. Additionally, it was refreshing to hear the enthusiastic responses from trainees who had attended the Cross Trust, Annual CPD Event held at Wolfreton School and Sixth Form College in October. Best wishes to trainees we have hosted during the Autumn Term as they start to prepare for and embark on the next stages of their journey.

A very warm welcome to all those who are joining us for the next stage of their training.

A full profile can be found on the website but read highlights here from ITT Lewis Mowforth about his Biology placement at Holderness Academy & Sixth Form College:

Tell us a little about your placement with The Consortium Academy Trust. What were the highlights and challenges?

My placement has been fantastic, Holderness Academy as a whole and especially the science department who welcomed me into their team with open arms. My mentor Dr Atkin provided me with invaluable knowledge and made me feel at ease. If I was to write down all of the support I have received from all members of the science department, I would need a bigger article; never mind that from SLT and the SEND department. Conversations and professional development opportunities have made me evermore interested in what the teaching profession has to offer.

The Annual Trust CPD Event was a great opportunity to meet people and develop my teaching practice. I attended seminars on guided practice, student careers guidance and science in secondary schools. The inspirational speaker's key quotes are referred to regularly in the school, and I make sure I am a 2% who wears my best socks and believes every day is a TGI day!



The main highlight from my time has been seeing the progress of my students; they leave class knowing more than when they came in and the genuine interest shown in their own learning. The progress of my classes, and the conversations we have, put a smile on my face and provide me with a chuckle at the end of the day; and I don't think there's much more you can ask for. The biggest challenge has been seeing the struggle many students have in school, both academically and non-academically. The staff at Holderness Academy provide students with the best opportunity to develop themselves and this is founded on the genuine relationships between staff and students. My other challenge has been leaving the school. It was unexpectedly difficult to say goodbye to not only colleagues, but also the students. In what has been a relatively short amount of time, I have come to know my classes and have looked forward to teaching them. These farewells from the students and colleagues have further proven to me that I have made the correct decision pursuing a career in teaching.



Trust values in action

Aspiration



Holderness Academy: Steps to Success Programme

Year 11 students at Holderness Academy have made a great start to the first 'Steps to Success' events run this term, demonstrating aspirational attitudes towards their revision.

The programme is a new strategy introduced this year, combining:

- whole-school revision strategies
- staff CPDL
- student workshops and revision sessions
- parent/carer workshops
- external speakers

Holderness have used the 'Walkthrus' approach to support staff with modelling impactful revision strategies in lessons. We have also had strong engagement with our parent/carer launch event ahead of more parent/carer workshops later in the year.



Respect

Richard McDonald, Assistant Headteacher (Quality of Education) at Holderness recently starred in Hull Musical Theatre Company's musical comedy "9 to 5" at Cottingham Civic Hall and his Holderness colleagues turned out to support him on opening night.

He explained: *"I really enjoy doing shows like this as having a hobby like this helps me maintain a healthy work-life balance".*

Colleagues who went to watch the show were full of praise: *"The show was amazing; I didn't realise how well Richard could sing! Really looking forward to seeing him perform again!!"*



Integrity

Since we launched the A Shining Light charity in July, we've raised over £16,000 for Teenage Cancer Trust.

After our initial opening event we've been working really hard to establish the charity in our local Howden community and more than 15 local businesses have signed up as partners of A Shining Light. We recently held our first community event, a car boot sale at the school site which raised over £600, and we are looking at some other events for the new year including bingo and a craft fair. Launching our brand-new website was really exciting and we've had visitors from all across the country and beyond, so we urge everyone to keep sharing what we're doing, follow us on all the social media sites we have set up and hopefully we will continue to make young people more health aware!




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Responsibility

Mr Steels, Head of Performance at Howden School, has had the pleasure of heading over to Keyingham Primary on a monthly basis to teach the pupils and staff how to play the Ukulele.


Pupils have made fantastic progress so far and have been learning to play a range of songs including "Three Little Birds", "Le Freak", "Lava Song" and they have even started learning "Last Christmas" just in time before the festivities begin. The goal of these sessions is for Mr Steels to give the pupils and staff at Keyingham the skills to be self-sufficient on the ukuleles, so that they are able to tune, and learn to play the ukuleles independently.



A Shining Light




About us






- Launched in July 2022 in memory of Luke Stevens, one of Howden's shining lights.
- The charity aims to raise awareness of cancer in young people as well as educating our community about the importance of both physical and mental health.
- 100% of all money raised goes directly to the Yorkshire branches of Teenage Cancer Trust to support more people like Luke and their families on this difficult journey.


Donate now >>




www.ashininglight.org.uk

 A Shining Light  @AShiningLight22  ashininglight2022

IN AID OF



Registered charity number 1062559



DILIGENCE. LEARNING AND CONCORD



Shaping Positive Futures



Duke of Edinburgh Award Celebration Evening



November saw Hessle's first ever 'Duke of Edinburgh Award Celebration Evening'.

It was wonderful to share the students' experiences and achievements with their parents and fellow staff members. It was a far cry from when I took over the leadership of the award programme in October 2019, when it was in a fairly moribund state with a handful of students enrolled but little sense of what they were going to be doing and who was going to organise it. It was a massive learning curve for me, but I was ready for the challenge as all good DofE people are!

Three years on, and despite a pandemic, the programme is in fantastic health, and, in November, we had the opportunity to celebrate this success with students, staff and parents. Hayley Singleton, from the Duke of Edinburgh Award, handed out the certificates to the students. Two

participants were given special awards for outstanding achievement. As well as the traditional Duke of Edinburgh certificate each participant was given a special COVID Certificate of Achievement to recognise that they had achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Award under difficult circumstances.

During the event, I shared some key numbers with the guests, and they make for remarkable reading. This year we have:

- *55 students have so far successfully completed either the Bronze (44 students) or Silver (11) Awards (88 in total since October 2019)*
- *792 hours of volunteering have been completed*
- *1320 hours of physical activity*
- *660 hours of skill learning*
- *And a total of 2772 miles walked in expeditions - the equivalent of walking to Bergushad in Azerbaijan*

This could not be achieved without the support of Michelle Edwards, Paul Scott and other member of the Hessle Academy staff. Twenty-four members of staff voluntary gave up their time to help support our young people to achieve their awards. All 55 of our students embodied all of our school values: **aspiration, integrity, kindness, respect, responsibility and resilience.**

If evidence was needed of the impact of this, of the 55 families invited to the celebration on Monday, 52 of them attended, showing how much this is valued by all concerned.

This year we have 42 students working towards their Bronze Award and 16 working towards their Silver Award. This is just the beginning.

Many thanks to all involved and long may it continue.

Kate Moore, Hessle