

Dudley Academies Trust

Executive offices, Dudley College of Technology
Priory Villa, 3a Ednam Road, Dudley, West
Midlands, DY1 1HL

Chair of Board of Trustees: Lowell Williams
Chief Executive: Jo Higgins



6th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Dudley Academies Trust

I am delighted that I am now able to officially welcome you and your child into our family of schools. Dudley Academies Trust is a multi academy trust which combines four secondary academies (Beacon Hill Academy, Pegasus Academy, St James Academy and The Link Academy) and two primary academies (Blowers Green Primary and Kates Hill Primary). The Trust is actively sponsored by Dudley College of Technology.

Wednesday 1st June 2022 marked a very important event with the official transfer of Kates Hill school into our Trust. I am absolutely thrilled that our Trust is able to grow, and that Kates Hill Primary has joined us. We are committed to providing an excellent learning experience for all pupils and to improving the life chances of young people in Dudley and beyond.

I am very keen to share some exciting developments and important information with you.

- Branding, website, and school grounds

To mark the momentous occasion of Kates Hill Primary joining our Trust, we have worked with the school to develop its new logo and branding. It is important that the Dudley Academies Trust brand lends itself well to being appropriately adapted in order to reflect the characteristics of our individual schools whilst maintaining a sense of togetherness. Kates Hill Primary has chosen our 'primary blue' which mirrors our Trust branding and secondary founding colours.

Over half term, new signage has been installed across the school estate. Please note that all our academies have similar signage which reflects the unity of our family of schools. You will also see that the school has a dynamic new website. Please take some time to view this to 'Discover more' about how our Trust can support your child's education. The Trust will also help improve the school facilities by refurbishing the pupil toilets, undertaking improvements to the school kitchen and roofing repairs.

- Uniform

From September 2022, we will be introducing a new uniform for pupils at Kates Hill Primary. I am pleased to announce that all families will be gifted, free of charge, new uniform items for their child. This will include two new branded sweatshirts or cardigans and two white polo shirts. In the coming weeks we will be sending you information on how to order your free items. Once ordered, we will be hosting an event at the school for parents and carers to come and collect their new uniform items.

We will update the website under Parents & Carers > Uniform in due course with information related to the new uniform and requirements for September. In the first instance I wanted to reassure you that as a Trust we are committed to supporting our children and their families.



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- Weduc

Weduc is our new Parent/Carer engagement app. which helps to ensure you are always up to date with important news, key dates and your child's performance.

In the coming weeks, we aim to send you registration details. We ask that all parents and carers sign up for this service, as this enables us to communicate messages and information effectively. Further information can be found on the Kates Hill Primary website under Parents & Carers > Parent/ Carer App (Weduc).

- Governance

As a Trust, we believe that parents and local communities play a vital role in the success of our schools, and so developing strong local governance arrangements at Kates Hill is a priority for us. Our local advisory committees (local governing bodies) work in a supportive but challenging way with the school's senior leadership team to ensure that our pupils receive the best possible education. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out about volunteering to join the local advisory committee at Kates Hill, then Gill Darwood, our Director of Corporate Governance, would love to hear from you. You can contact her by emailing gill.darwood@dudleycol.ac.uk.

- Leadership

As you are aware, Mrs Harvey will be leaving us in September 2022 for pastures new. Claire Fellows, Chair of Governors, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Harvey all the best in her future endeavours and thank her for her invaluable leadership of the school. I appreciate the importance of clear communication with all our stakeholders, and I want to reassure you that Kates Hill Primary will continue to have strong leadership. We will provide further information in this regard as soon as possible.

In the coming weeks I will arrange a date and time for parents and carers to come and meet me and key members of our Trust's central team.

Yours faithfully

Jo Higgins
Chief Executive



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