

CEO Briefing

SCHOOL YEAR 2017/18
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Nexus MAT



@NexusMat

Welcome back to all our **wonderful children, staff and governors** after a well earned 2 week break! Also, a big **Nexus welcome** to our new Deputy CFO **Cath Sands**, who starts with us today after 17 years at South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue.

The Autumn term was a long and successful one with all of our academies having lots to celebrate. However, I also had a lot of challenges to reflect on over the holidays and we suffered the painful loss of 2 pupils at Kelford who passed away quite suddenly. As we ended the term in December, I was staggered to see how resilient our children and staff are and how much joy they all got from celebrating Christmas together. It was a great way to end the term.

It's great to start the New Year with news of another Nexus award, and I'm so proud of **Abbey school** for being crowned **winner of the "super school" category** at the Sheffield Star Superkids Awards on 5th Dec 2017. Well done Abbey!

I will be continuing to work closely with Mr. McNaught at **Crags Community School** following the close of the consultation period for their proposal to join Nexus MAT. Conversion to become an academy can often take several months and this week we'll start to progress the academisation process, if there have been no concerns raised via consultation. The next step would be to secure agreement from the Department for Education for Crags to join Nexus: we can't take for granted that the DfE will support an application, though we'll be working very hard to secure a positive outcome!

At the same time, I've also been invited to talk to schools in Doncaster and Sheffield about joining our Trust. Whilst it's really early days and our growth must absolutely be safe, secure, sustainable and 100% built on our values: I think it's testament to the openness of our Trust and the character of our academies that other schools are now making approaches to talk about conversion.

In my last briefing, I reported that we had submitted two applications to open new special schools in Sheffield and Doncaster (by 2019 at the earliest). Big thanks to Richard Webster and Tracey Brooke for all their efforts in developing the applications with me. As a result of our hard work, we've been invited to interview by both Doncaster and Sheffield Councils. The potential these new schools bring to the special school system in South Yorkshire is huge and we're really excited about the possibilities they offer!

I look forward to sharing more exciting news soon!



Warren Carratt

Learning together; to be the best we can be