

25th March 2026

Dear parents/carers

Re: Trust update

I am writing to share some Trust-wide developments and information relating to student activities and stakeholder feedback.

- **Oak Farm Primary School**

The Trust received the final confirmation last week from the Department for Education that Oak Farm Primary School has met all the conditions for its academisation on 1st April 2026, including joining Vanguard Learning Trust (VLT). It has been a busy half term preparing for the school to join the Trust particularly with operational functions and statutory processes. I look forward to sharing the plans for marking our sixth school becoming part of the Trust early next term.

- **Newsletter**

The newsletter is now available on the Trust's website ([click here](#)). It contains articles on all the Trust-wide student activities that have occurred during the spring term as well as showcasing the recipients of the spring term student awards for the Trust's value of community. It also contains the VLT cup league after two terms with Hermitage Primary School retaining a strong leading score.

- **Trust-wide weeks**

- **Equality week**

The Trust is hosting its sixth equality week from Monday 20th to Friday 24th April 2026 ([click here](#) for flyer). Activities taking place during the week will include assemblies, workshops, and tutorials, as well as practical activities such as a Kathak dance workshop. Schools will be providing specific arrangements for the week.

- **Deaf awareness week**

This year, deaf awareness week will take place from Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th May 2026 (Monday is a bank holiday). The week provides an important opportunity for our Trust community to raise awareness of the experiences of deaf and hard-of-hearing people, and explore ways to collectively contribute to an inclusive environment. As part of the week, the Trust will be offering a basic British Sign Language (BSL) lesson to all students, parents/carers and staff. This session aims to give everyone a practical introduction to communicating in BSL and help strengthen understanding and inclusion across our schools. Activities during the week will also include assemblies and workshops designed to engage students with deaf awareness and highlight the importance of accessibility for all.

➤ **Stakeholder feedback**

This term's stakeholder feedback surveys invited students and parents/carers to share their views on the theme of safeguarding. I am pleased that the responses continue to reflect many strengths across our schools; for example, 92% of respondents commented that they believe their child feels safe at school, while 82% agreed that their child's school supports their mental health and wellbeing. In addition, 91% of parents believe their child can take part in lessons and wider school activities, reflecting the inclusive experiences that our schools aim to provide. The feedback we receive through these surveys is extremely valuable and plays a key role in helping us understand the experiences of our school communities and identify opportunities to strengthen our practice. A short '*you said, we did*' overview ([click here](#)) has been produced and the previous one is available on the Trust's website. All feedback received is instrumental in supporting our Trust's ongoing improvement and we are very grateful for the time that students and parents/carers take to share their views. Our priority for future surveys is to increase participation rates and, therefore, this will be the focus for next term.

I hope parents/carers find this Trust-wide information useful and I wish all Trust-wide families a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Yours sincerely



Dr Martina Lecky
Chief Executive Officer