

Welcome to Woodside CofE Primary School

A member of Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust



Message from the CEO

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to Woodside CofE Primary School, a school within the family of academies that form the Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust (BDMAT).

We currently have 19 schools in our trust with over 4,000 pupils across three different local authorities in the West Midlands; in fact, we are now one of the largest trusts in the area. We are committed to providing high quality education for all the children in our schools through collaboration, challenge and targeted support, set within a Christian foundation.

We are guided by our Christian mission and aim to ensure that our pupils and staff enjoy 'life in its fullness' (John 10:10). Our purpose of ensuring high quality education is delivered through shared best practice across our family of schools combined with support from our central team, set within a Christian ethos.

Each of our schools is run on a day-to-day basis by a headteacher, senior leaders and governors (our Local Academy Boards). The BDMAT Central Team and the main board of directors set the strategic direction for our schools and provides challenge and support to school leaders.

I hope that you find the information within this booklet of interest to you but if you have any specific questions about BDMAT please do not hesitate to email these to us at enquiries@bdmatt.org.uk

I really do hope that your child's time at this BDMAT school is both a happy and rewarding one for them.

Yours faithfully



Dr Christopher Mansell
Chief Executive Officer

Information about our schools

The Trust was established in 2017 by Birmingham Diocesan Board of Education, which has a strong track record of providing excellent educational provision and achieving rapid school improvement across all phases. The trust currently has 19 schools, 18 primary and 1 secondary, spread across three local authority areas: Birmingham City (10 schools), Warwickshire (6 schools) and Solihull (3 schools).

The North Warwickshire Hub

School	Location	Number on roll	Headteacher
Nethersole CofE Primary	Polesworth	275	Jo Alexander
Warton Nethersole's CofE Primary	Warton	158	Susan Friend
Austrey CofE Primary	Austrey	90	Sara Eley
Newton Regis CofE Primary	Newton Regis	94	Sara Eley
Woodside CofE Primary	Grendon, Atherstone	203	Awen Simpson (Natasha Johnson from Jan 2022)

The Birmingham Central Hub

School	Location	Number on roll	Headteacher
St. Clement's CofE Primary	Nechells	205	Devina Shryane
St. Michael's CofE Primary	Handsworth	188	Philip Hynan
St. George's CofE Primary	Newtown	319	Linda Francis
St. George's CofE Primary	Edgbaston	210	Shirley Atkar
Holy Trinity CofE Primary	Handsworth	193	Paula Burns

The Birmingham South Hub

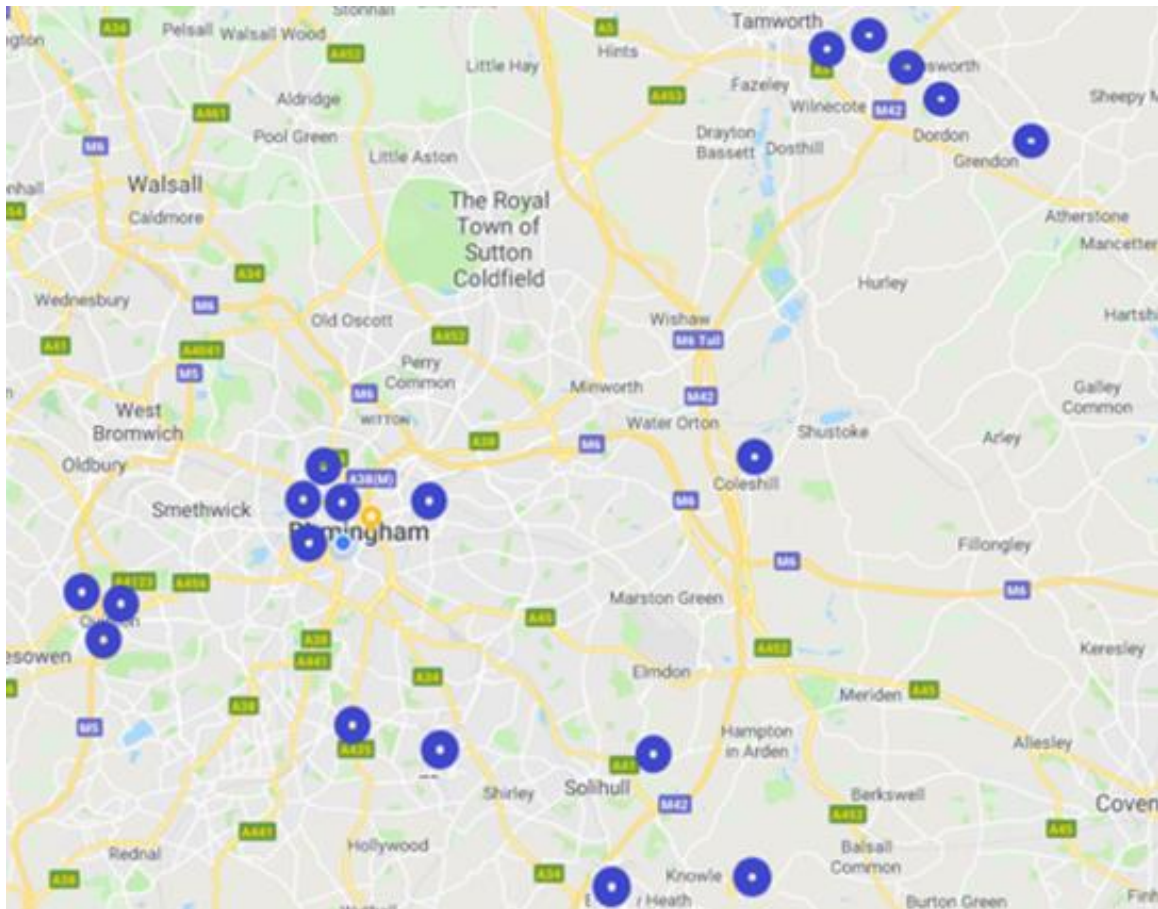
School	Location	Number on roll	Headteacher
Hawkesley CofE Primary	Kings Norton	204	Sam Smith
St. Michael's CofE Primary	Bartley Green	415	Jane Bruten
Nonsuch Primary	Woodgate	198	Sally Roberts

Quinton CofE Primary	Quinton	208	Carl Watkins
Christ Church, Church of England Secondary Academy	Yardley Wood	190 (Year 7 only)	Mark Bowman Dalton

Solihull and Central Warwickshire Hub

School	Location	Number on roll	Headteacher
Lady Katherine Leveson CofE	Temple Balsall	196	Simon Russell
St. Margaret's CofE Primary	Olton, Solihull	210	Anita Delaney
Bentley Heath CofE Primary	Bentley Heath, Solihull	460	Stephen Hawke (Hannah Cook from January 2022)
Coleshill CofE Primary	Coleshill	391	Matthew Edwards

Location of BDMAT schools



Our mission and values



The Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust (BDMAT) recognises that the future for schools lies in formal collaborations; schools working together, in partnership, to offer life in all its fullness for the young people who attend them. Church schools have a very distinctive purpose: Education is taught in an environment where there is a set of values and ways of behaving that stem from and express the Christian foundation of the school. Our schools are about providing an education within a Christian framework for children of the local community of any faith or none; our Trust seeks to provide a place where church schools and non-church schools who support our philosophy can continue to provide high quality education, knowing that their distinctive ethos will be protected into the future.

Our mission is:

To provide high quality education within a Christian framework that allows all pupils to reach their full potential through experiencing a broad and balanced curriculum whilst ensuring staff have a good life / work balance and are fulfilled in their roles.

Our values

Our BDMAT values were revised in consultation with stakeholders in the autumn term 2020. As a result, our revised values are:

- **Hope** – we have hope that there can always be a positive outcome
- **Honesty** – we are honest with all inside and outside our organisation, whilst being sensitive to how we deliver these messages
- **Integrity** – we have strong principles rooted in our Christian mission that lead our actions and decisions

- **Helpfulness** – we work in co-operation and partnership with all staff and stakeholders
- **Respect** – we respect all those that we come across
- **Dignity and compassion** – we treat all those within and outside our organisation with dignity, irrespective of the circumstances, and we show everyone compassion for the difficulties that they are experiencing
- **Wisdom** – The decisions we take are wise and are based on informed discussions and evidence and aimed at ensuring we achieve the best outcomes for all without forsaking our values

Our vision

‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’ is inspired, as we are within BDMAT by scripture, in particular John 10:10 where Jesus declares ***“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”***. The words of Jesus act as a guide for our vision, which is encompassed in our three guiding principles:

Life in its fullness for all

It is our mission to ensure that we act as God’s servants in ensuring that the vision of Jesus can be delivered. We think we can best achieve this through creating inspiring curricula which is specific to each school – our schools cover a large geographical area and serve such contrasting communities that it would be inappropriate to have a ‘one-size-fits-all’ curriculum across our settings. What we have established though, are curriculum networks for school leads to attend in order that they can share best practice and help support one another.

We accept the importance of literacy and numeracy as these subjects can unlock all aspects of education and open-up opportunities for all; one of the greatest Christian duties on us is to make sure that each child has the opportunity to achieve in these subject areas. Poor literacy and numeracy skills are the greatest barrier to social justice, especially for the most vulnerable pupils. Whilst a key focus of the trust will always be on the promotion and improvement of literacy and numeracy, it will not be at the expense of the child experiencing a wide range of subjects and activities in our schools, both in the primary and secondary sectors. Pupils therefore should have plenty of opportunities to learn about the world through the humanity subjects; they should experience the arts as both artists and as audiences; and be introduced to a wide range of sports. These opportunities in the primary and secondary stages are of particular importance as they encourage children to become ‘rounded – individuals’ and give them experiences that they might wish to develop in the future for either employment or social reasons.

As an organisation with Christian values at its core, we wish all to know who Jesus is and the key aspects of Christian teaching. Many of our staff and pupils have a faith other than the Christian faith, some may have no faith. Our schools serve all and all are welcome. We therefore provide an education within a Christian framework that we feel will be appropriate to those with faith or none equally. A key aspect of our work is to develop pupils' spirituality, be this linked to Christianity or otherwise.

Success for all

In the current world of education, 'success' is often measured by literacy and maths attainment alone at the end of key stages. At BDMAT we are committed to the holistic development of each child and we therefore see *success* in a much broader context. We want our pupils to experience a range of subjects and experiences in order that they have the opportunity to achieve within these. As previously stated, this approach should not be at the expense of aiming high academically for all pupils – especially those who are vulnerable. Therefore, we expect all of our schools to aim for FFT (Fischer Family Trust) 50 targets this is in line with national attainment) as a minimum but also to set aspirational targets of FFT 20 (aiming for performance in the top 20% of all pupils nationally).

Positive well-being for all

Two-year old children who start in our school nurseries in September 2020 will leave compulsory education in 2036 and therefore we have a responsibility to educate them in preparation for what society is likely to be in the future. As a result, pupils will need to be supported to be resilient and be capable of being able to transfer skills. They will also need strategies to ensure that they look after their health – both physical and mental. Therefore, each school has a comprehensive personal, social and health education programme, incorporating a Relationships and Sex programme that meets current recommendations from the Department for Education and the guidance issued by the Church of England through 'Valuing All God's Children' and subsequent advice. The majority of staff who have direct contact with pupils should have mental health training and be aware of the symptoms of mental health; pupils and their families can then be supported or signposted to the relevant professional support.

Our priorities

With the above mission, vision and values in mind and reflecting on the current position of our schools, directors have set the following priorities, which will be measured through our strategic aims and KPIs:

Our pupils:

- get a full and exciting curriculum
- achieve better than average attainment
- achieve better than average progress
- have attendance above that seen nationally
- who are disadvantaged, have an excellent start to their education

Our schools:

- embody the Christian vision and values of BDMAT
- are judged as good or better by Ofsted and SIAMS
- are exemplary at safeguarding our pupils
- have high parental satisfaction

Our staff:

- love working for us
- have higher than sector attendance
- are lifelong learners

Our directors and governors:

- feel supported in their roles
- have a demonstrable impact on improving the outcomes and opportunities for pupils
- love volunteering for us

BDMAT Central Team staff

The BDMAT Executive Team

Dr Christopher Mansell – Chief Executive Officer



Christopher took up post as CEO of BDMAT on 01 September 2017. Prior to this, he had been Headteacher of 4 schools during a period of 17 years in Derby City, Derbyshire and Warwickshire, having commenced his first headship in 2000. All of his headships were at schools which were in 'difficult situations', including one that had recently been placed into

Special Measures and one in an inner-city, highly deprived area. In 2013 he completed a Master of Philosophy degree at the University of Birmingham and in 2020 completed his doctorate at the University of Nottingham (examining the impact of academy sponsorship on headteachers). Christopher became CEO at the inception of BDMAT in September 2017 and has taken the trust from its original 6 schools to its current 19 schools. Christopher is also a non-executive director on two other Birmingham based MATs.

Sam Cosgrove – Director of School Improvement

Sam took up the post of Director of School Improvement in September 2018. Prior to this she was Executive Head Teacher of the Barchelai Multi-Academy Trust which was based in the south of Birmingham.

The majority of the schools that Sam has worked in have been schools in areas of high deprivation including one that had been placed in Special Measures.



Chris Manning – Director of Finance and Operations



Chris joined BDMAT as Director of Finance and Operations in March 2019, having spent 10 years working for Landau Forte Charitable Trust, a multi academy trust based in the midlands, as Group Financial Controller, and then Executive Director of Finance & Administration. Prior to this Chris trained to be a Chartered Accountant within KPMG working

across the public sector. Chris is a Trustee and Treasurer of two charities working in the Derby area and also supports the Governing Body of an independent school, also based in Derby.

BDMAT Heads of Department

Lee Davis – Head of Finance



Lee is Head of Finance at BDMAT. Prior to this, he was a School Finance Partner at BDMAT and had acted as the Chief Finance and Operations Officer for a short time. Lee also worked within the trust at St Clement's Church of England Academy as a School Business Manager before taking up post as a School Finance Partner in September 2018. Earlier in his career Lee worked in retail management accounting before moving to finance and accounting support in the Education sector.

Michelle Fulwood – Head of School Support



Michele is Head of School Support for BDMAT. She was previously one of our School Finance Partners, having been seconded to the BDMAT finance team in January 2019. Prior to this, she was the full time School Business Manager at St George's Church of England Academy, Newtown and had also served for 10 years as a Bursar at a Local Authority School.

Austen Puleston – Head of IT



Austen has been the Head of IT for BDMAT since May 2020. For the previous 7 years, he ran an IT company providing support and consultancy for schools and multi-academy trusts in the West Midlands. Before his time in IT, Austen was a climbing instructor and when not at work can often be found in the more mountainous regions of the UK.

Mark Roberts – Head of Operations



Mark joined BDMAT in June 2020 as Head of Operations. Prior to joining BDMAT, Mark had over twelve years' experience in the secondary education sector, ten of which were spent working as the Business Manager of an 11 – 16 Academy in Tamworth. Before working in education, Mark spent fifteen years as a manager in the hospitality and leisure sector.

Further information

You can find out more about BDMAT including a link to all school policies on our website.

<https://bdmatschools.com/>

Contact us

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