

# Our Community Matters

June 2025  
Issue 26



The latest news, views, and announcements for the  
Community Academies Trust



#catschools/#schoolscat

Editor: Michelle Borders

[communications@catschools.uk](mailto:communications@catschools.uk)

[www.thecatoinstitute.org](http://www.thecatoinstitute.org)

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## Welcome Back! Let's Talk Behaviour

We hope you had a great  
half term and managed to  
enjoy a bit of a break.



With behaviour being the theme of our upcoming Whole Trust Day, it made perfect sense to focus this half term's OCM on the same topic. It's something that touches every part of school life—and we've got lots to share.

Even though it's a short half term, our schools have already been busy with brilliant events and some very special visitors which you can read about in Ensuring Excellence. In this issue, you'll meet **Mark Gibbons**, Headteacher at Windmill Primary and Chair of our Behaviour specialist network group. You'll also hear from **Jo Howell**, our Director of Behaviour and Safeguarding, who shares her thoughts on where we are and where we're heading.

We're also excited to introduce **Tracey Campbell**, the behaviour consultant leading **CATalyst25**, our Trust Day. Tracey brings a powerful mix of personal experience and professional insight—check out her story and watch her short intro video here: [Tracey Campbell](#) (click to watch). It's shaping up to be a day full of practical ideas, honest conversations, and inspiring workshops.

In our *Education Matters* section, we've included a summary of a recent **NASUWT report** on pupil behaviour in UK schools. The findings are pretty eye-opening and give us all something to think about as we continue to support our pupils and each other.

We hope you enjoy this issue and find something that sparks a thought or starts a conversation. As always, we'd love to hear your feedback—and we're looking forward to another great half term together.

Michelle Borders  
Editor



## Message from Philip Hamilton OBE, CEO



I have really enjoyed visiting schools during the last half term.

For schools to be successful, all staff need a strong professional will to do the best for the young people in our care. This should be complimented by professional humility and with both in place our schools continuously improve. I have seen both in every school I visited. I enjoyed witnessing the sense of pride our Headteachers convey as they showcase the schools and the wide range of achievements in them. I have felt the tangible positive culture that exists and the consistent high expectations that pervade corridors and classrooms. I have seen safe, happy young people who benefit hugely from all you continue to do. Whatever your job role, you make a difference, and my tour of our schools was an absolute joy as a result.

Last year, at this time I wrote about the challenges and uncertainty facing education as we anticipated a change in government. A year later, and the new government is planning further significant changes that create fresh challenges and uncertainty. There are the proposed new Ofsted arrangements including the report cards, the new DFE programme of school improvement and accountability - so called RISE teams and the new children's well-being and schools bill currently making its way through parliament. All of this will impact the way we operate, but I remain determined that our community school orientated focus remains. We will work together to make sure the inevitable adjustments we make will not erode our values of local school identity - crucial for meeting the needs of our diverse communities well.

I look forward to seeing you all at our first whole trust conference **CATalyst25** on 27<sup>th</sup> June. There's a lot more information later in this 26<sup>th</sup> edition of Our Community Matters. OCM is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year as an important half termly vehicle for celebrating the strengths in our trust and communicating important trust wide messages and information. It has gone from strength-to-strength because of the wonderful work of our OCM editor - Michelle Borders. My thanks to Michelle for demonstrating real professional will in spades to maintain the quality of this over time.

Best wishes for the term ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip".

Philip Hamilton OBE, CEO

# Ensuring Excellence

Snapshots of what our schools have been up to this half term.

## A special homecoming: Mayor of Lichfield visits Chadsmead Primary Academy



**We were thrilled to welcome the Mayor of Lichfield, Sam Schafer, back to Chadsmead this week – a visit made all the more special as Sam is a proud former pupil of our school!**

During his visit, Mayor Schafer shared fond memories of his time at Chadsmead, speaking warmly to the children about his favourite subjects, the teachers who inspired him, and how his early experiences here helped shape his journey to public service. His reflections offered a powerful message about the lasting impact of education and community.

As he toured the school, Sam noted how much had changed since his own school days. He visited every class, engaging with pupils and answering their thoughtful questions – from what it's like to be Mayor to what he enjoyed most as a student at Chadsmead.

The children were captivated, and the visit turned into a rich learning experience for all.

What stood out most was Sam's deep-rooted community spirit and his clear love for Lichfield. His story served as a real-life example of local success, showing our pupils that they too can aspire to make a difference.

In a touching moment, Sam revealed that his own inspiration to serve came from meeting the Mayor

during a school visit when he was just 10 years old – a full-circle moment that resonated with everyone present.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mayor Schafer for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit us. His presence made a lasting impression, and it was truly a day to remember.

## The Wilnecote School welcomes local MP to discuss Safety and inspire Futures



**On Monday 28th April, The Wilnecote School had the pleasure of welcoming Tamworth MP Sarah Edwards for a meaningful visit that combined community collaboration with student inspiration.**

The visit, which marked the start of the new term, focused on two key priorities: addressing local safety concerns and encouraging students to explore future career pathways. A central topic of discussion was the ongoing issue of traffic congestion and parking on Hockley Road at the end of the school day.

With large numbers of students leaving the site and high volumes of traffic, the area has become a hotspot for congestion and potential safety risks.

OCM Issue 26, June 2025

The school is actively working to find solutions that will ease these pressures and improve conditions for both students and local residents. Ms Edwards, who has a strong track record in community engagement since her election in October 2023, listened carefully to the concerns raised and committed to raising the issue of irresponsible parking with Staffordshire County Council.

Her support represents a valuable step toward long-term improvements in student safety and neighbourhood wellbeing.

In addition to addressing local issues, Ms Edwards spent time with the school's Student Leadership Team. She offered thoughtful advice and encouragement, sharing insights from her own journey into politics and public service. The students found the session both inspiring and informative, gaining a deeper understanding of leadership and civic responsibility.

"The Wilnecote School is proud to play an active role in putting our students' safety first, as well as supporting our nearby residents and finding ways to make a positive impact. Having Sarah involved in this will make a huge difference," said Mr Simpson, Assistant Headteacher for Safeguarding & Attendance.



Looking ahead, the school is planning a visit to the Houses of Parliament – an exciting opportunity for students to witness the workings of government firsthand. The trip aims to deepen their understanding of how decisions are made and inspire future aspirations in public service, politics, and leadership.

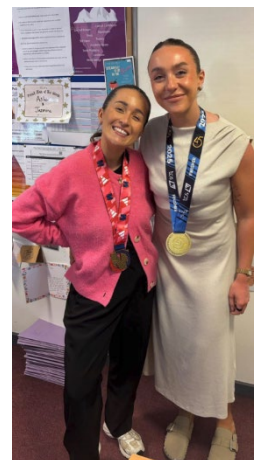
Following such a positive and productive day, The Wilnecote School remains committed to building strong partnerships and creating opportunities that connect students with the world beyond the classroom.

## Going the Distance: Rhiannon Goodeve and Beth Currall Complete the London Marathon for Charity

**We are incredibly proud to celebrate the remarkable achievement of Rhiannon Goodeve, Pastoral Lead at The Polesworth School, who, together with her colleague from Polesworth's English Department, Beth Currall, completed the London Marathon on 27th April 2025.**

Crossing the finish line in just over five hours, Rhiannon's journey was about far more than just the miles. With 10km to go, she paused her own race to help a fellow runner who had collapsed. In a powerful act of kindness, Rhiannon stayed by their side, held their hand, and ensured they crossed the finish line together.

Rhiannon's marathon preparation began months ago, training through the dark winter mornings and challenging weather. Her dedication paid off not only in completing the race but also in raising an incredible £1,500 for the Heart of Tamworth charity. Alongside her role at Polesworth, Rhiannon is also a Youth Worker and is currently studying for a master's degree – making her marathon accomplishment even more impressive. **Congratulations to Rhiannon and Beth for their amazing achievement.**





## Wilnecote champions Autism Awareness with student advocate programme



**The Wilnecote School is proud to celebrate the successful re-launch of its Autism Advocate Course – a pioneering initiative designed to promote empathy, inclusion, and peer support throughout the school community.**

Led by Miss Jones, the course welcomed its first cohort of students from the Junior Leadership Team and School Council. Over a series of weekly sessions, these students developed a deeper understanding of Autism and earned both an **AQA award in Autism Awareness** and personalised certificates presented by Miss Jones and Headteacher Mr Foksett.

Now officially certified, these **Wilnecote Autism Advocates** are ready to make a real difference. They will serve as friendly, approachable points of contact for their peers, offering support, guidance, and a reassuring presence around the school. The course equipped them with the knowledge and empathy needed to help create a more inclusive and understanding environment for all students.

Miss Jones shared her pride in the group's achievements:

*"They will all be fantastic Advocates for the school to support students in lessons and around the building. I look forward to rolling out the course to the wider school from September."*

Mr Herbert, Assistant Headteacher and SENCo, highlighted the strategic importance of the initiative:

*"This programme is a powerful testament to Wilnecote School's unwavering commitment to inclusivity. Empowering our own students to be advocates for their peers with Autism not only enriches their personal growth but also cultivates a truly empathetic and supportive school culture."*

The impact of the course is already evident in the feedback from students:

- *"It has educated me, and I now know how to offer help if needed."*
- *"I enjoyed learning about a condition I didn't know much about."*
- *"It will be beneficial if I go into teaching – I'll understand why others may need more support."*
- *"If someone is being mocked for something they need, I'll step in and explain why it's important."*
- *"If a substitute teacher changes the seating plan, I'll make sure students who need specific seats are supported."*

This initiative marks a significant step forward in promoting awareness and inclusion at The Wilnecote School. With plans to expand the programme in the next academic year, the school is setting a powerful example of student-led change and community care.

## The Telford Langley School Staff Take on Three Peaks Challenge in Memory of Beloved Student



Staff at The Telford Langley School are preparing to take on the formidable Three Peaks Challenge this June in a heartfelt tribute to a much-missed student, Joshua Lloyd.

Joshua, who tragically passed away in 2023 at the age of 12, left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him. Described by his family as someone who "brought endless joy and love to all those around him," Joshua's memory continues to inspire the school community.

In his honour, a team of ten dedicated staff members will climb the highest peaks in Scotland, England, and Wales—Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike, and Snowdon—within 24 hours on June 14 and 15.

The challenge is not only a tribute to Joshua's life but also a fundraising effort for two causes close to the school's heart: Asthma + Lung UK and Dawley Youth Club.

Deputy Headteacher Kevin Preece, alongside colleagues Matthew Creed and Oli Freeman, launched the initiative with the support of local dignitaries, including the Mayor of Great Dawley and Malinslee, Councillor Ben Carter. Mr Freeman, who has taught at the school for a decade, shared: *"We are doing this in memory of Joshua, to honour his legacy and raise funds in his name. It's a physical and emotional challenge, but one we're proud to take on."*

The school has already raised over £1,000 toward its £2,500 goal, with additional fundraising events planned in the lead-up to the challenge.

If anyone would like to support colleagues at Telford Langley, here are details for their Just Giving Page: [Telford Langley School is fundraising for Asthma + Lung UK](#)



## Introducing....

Our Network Groups... This issue shines a light on the Behaviour Specialist Network Group. By Mark Gibbons, Chair of Group, Headteacher Windmill Primary School

### ***'The youth of today!'***

**That's what the old folks say...**

**And who are the old folks? Are we the old folks? Is it us looking back to how children used to be in the good old days? And when were the good old days? Pre-Covid...?**



Children are growing up in a world vastly different from the one we knew a generation ago. From early years to sixth form, young people are navigating a landscape shaped by rapid technological change, shifting societal norms, and the lingering effects of global events like the pandemic. Unsurprisingly, their behaviour in schools reflects these changes—and so must our response as educators and school leaders.

In early years settings, we're seeing children arrive with challenging social and emotional starting points. Some may struggle with communication or self-regulation, while others display a level of digital fluency that belies their age. In primary and secondary phases, challenges around attention, resilience, and peer relationships are more pronounced. By sixth form, students are often balancing academic pressures with mental health concerns and uncertainty about the future.

These shifts present significant challenges for school leaders and staff. Behavioural expectations that once felt universal now require more nuanced, compassionate approaches. But while the pressures are real, so too is our power to make a difference.

What matters most is not just what children bring into school—but what we bring to them. Our attitudes, our language, and our mindset shape the culture of our classrooms and corridors. When we approach behaviour with empathy, consistency, and optimism, we create environments where all students can thrive.

Negativity—whether in the staffroom or the classroom—can quickly become a self-fulfilling prophecy. But positivity is contagious. It builds trust, fosters respect, and opens the door to meaningful change. As educators, we must model the behaviors we wish to see, not just manage the ones we don't.

To support a positive approach, I chair the Behaviour Specialist Network Group. Our next termly meeting is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, between 3:40pm and 4:40pm on Zoom and, whether you're an experienced leader or new to the profession, your voice and experience are welcome. It's a space to share strategies, celebrate successes, and tackle challenges together.

I don't really doubt that the youth of today will grow up to complain about the youth of tomorrow, just like our predecessors complained about us. All of us have probably said and all of us will probably continue to say the same thing: 'It's the parenting!' Some of us will cope with it by decrying and off-loading, and others will bust a gut trying to invest in the futures of the current batch.

If you're a 'gutbuster', join our group and together let's understand, support and inspire the youth of today!





## Training News....

The Community Academies Trust supports colleagues to develop professionally, creating a community of learners, striving to achieve excellence

### Safeguarding in the Digital Age: Protecting Young Lives

**Where:** Birchwood Primary School

**When:** Tuesday 30 September 2025

**Session 1:** 10-11.30

**Session 2:** 1-2.30

**Session 3:** 3.30-5.00



### UPCOMING Safer Recruitment Training Sessions:

**Refresher Training:** Tuesday 10 June 2025: Online 9am-1pm

**Safer Recruitment Full Course:** 1 July 2025 and 8 July 2025, IoE Training Centre, Dordon Primary School Face to Face 9am -1pm both days.



**Why you need to make sure your Safer Recruitment Training is up to date.**

Safer recruitment training is essential for anyone involved in recruitment within schools. Here's why:

**Protecting Pupils:** Ensures only suitable individuals are employed, preventing harm and abuse.

**Heightened Vigilance:** Equips staff to recognize warning signs and red flags, safeguarding students from potential threats.

**Legal Compliance:** Ensures staff understand and follow legal safeguarding protocols, protecting the school from legal issues.

**Cultivating a Safety Culture:** Fosters a culture of safety, reassuring parents and the community of the school's commitment to student protection.

**Enhanced Recruitment Processes:** Provides tools for thorough recruitment, making informed hiring decisions.

**Building Trust and Confidence:** Demonstrates the school's dedication to safeguarding, strengthening trust and confidence among stakeholders.

**Contact** [ioe@catschools.uk](mailto:ioe@catschools.uk) **to book your place.**



# Education Matters

If you would like to submit an article, we would love to hear from you. Email: [communications@catschools.uk](mailto:communications@catschools.uk)



## Behaviour in Schools 2025: A Wake-Up Call for UK Education

**A recent report by the NASUWT teachers' union has shed light on the growing challenges around pupil behaviour in UK schools – and the findings are both eye-opening and deeply concerning.**

Based on a survey of over 5,800 teachers, the report reveals that:

- **85%** of teachers experienced verbal abuse or violence from pupils in the past year.
- **40%** reported incidents of physical abuse, including being hit, kicked, or shoved.
- **96%** encountered persistent backchat and rudeness.
- **7%** faced threats involving weapons, and
- **3%** were actually assaulted with one.

Teachers also reported discriminatory abuse, including racial, homophobic, and ableist language, highlighting the complex and often hostile environments some staff are navigating daily.

The report doesn't just present statistics – it shares the lived experiences of teachers, including one who suffered dislocated ribs and torn muscles from an assault, and another who was stabbed in the leg with a pencil.

The NASUWT identifies several contributing factors:

- **Poor mental health** among pupils.
- **Ineffective restorative behaviour programmes.**
- **Lack of consistent policies** to deter unacceptable behaviour.

The union is calling for urgent action from schools, local authorities, and government bodies to address these issues, including better training, clearer policies, and more robust support systems for staff.

This report is a stark reminder that behaviour in schools is not just a classroom management issue – it's a safeguarding, wellbeing, and workforce retention issue.

You can read the full report here: [NASUWT Behaviour in Schools – Key Messages 2025](#)

# Building Consistency, Inspiring Excellence: A Shared Approach to Behaviour Across Our Trust

by Jo Howell, Director Behaviour and Safeguarding



As Director of Behaviour and Safeguarding I am particularly excited that we will be welcoming [Tracey Campbell](#) as the keynote speaker for our upcoming Trust-wide conference. Tracey brings with her a wealth of experience in developing whole-school behaviour approaches that are not only rooted in high expectations but are also deeply grounded in care, compassion and inclusion.

The theme of our CATalyst25 Conference - *Inspiring Excellence: Shaping a Strong Positive Culture* - could not be more timely or important. As a family of schools

committed to ensuring excellence, we know that a consistent approach to behaviour is fundamental to creating the calm, purposeful, and supportive learning environments our children need to thrive.

Consistency does not mean uniformity for its own sake, but rather, clarity, fairness and shared understanding. Our aspiration is for every adult across our Trust to approach behaviour with the same high expectations and the same child-centred values so that all children feel safe, seen and supported; at the same time, through consistency in approach we minimise confusion, remove ambiguity and send a clear message that we care and are committed to helping all children succeed.

I remain proud of the nurturing and inclusive ethos that exists in our schools. In all of my visits I constantly see staff working to build strong relationships with children and supporting their learning diligently. Our next step is to ensure our behaviour approaches are consistent across our schools. Our high expectations require structure and boundaries but can only be truly successful when coupled with empathy and understanding. While consequences and sanctions are a crucial part of our behaviour toolkit, effective behaviour systems also require relationships, restoration, and the ability to create a sense of belonging for every child.

This conference is the beginning of an exciting journey. With Tracey Campbell's expertise, we hope to shape a shared vision for behaviour that aligns with our core principles: excellence, high expectations, and a warm, supportive culture that values every child. It is our ambition that this work will lead to a clear set of non-negotiables, owned and embraced and ultimately embedded by every school, that reflects our shared commitment to creating the best possible environments for learning and growth for all.

We look forward to welcoming you all and to learning together on June 27<sup>th</sup>, challenging ourselves and continuing to build a consistent, compassionate approach to behaviour across our Trust.

Jo Howell  
Director of Behaviour and Safeguarding

# CAT Institute of Education Matters



A spotlight on the trust's Centre for Teacher Training, Professional Development and school improvement by Alexis Rickus, Director of Institute of Education



**Saying goodbye is never easy**, and this year's cohort of beginning teachers will be deeply missed. Their energy, enthusiasm, and fresh perspectives have made a lasting impression across our schools. While farewells are always tinged with sadness, we're delighted that some will be continuing their journey with us as Early Career Teachers (ECTs).

**Looking ahead, it's time to start planning for the future.** It may seem far off, but recruitment for September 2026 begins as early as October. We'll be in touch with your school shortly to explore the

possibility of hosting a trainee teacher. Your support in nurturing the next generation of teachers is invaluable.

This term also marks the start of preparations for registering and recruiting ECTs. If you currently have a first-year ECT in your school, they will continue their second year of training with Best Practice Network.

For new ECTs joining us in September, training will be delivered by the CAT Institute of Education (IoE) in partnership with **Teach First**. Golden Thread will remain our approved Appropriate Body. We have chosen Teach First as our ECT provider moving forward; a decision that reflects our commitment to quality and subject-specific development—Teach First is the only provider offering subject knowledge support in the second year, which aligns perfectly with our curriculum network groups.

## And now, a heartfelt farewell.

It is with genuine sadness that we say goodbye to Caroline O'Regan. Caroline has been a pillar of support, wisdom, and calm throughout her time with us. I've had the privilege of working closely with her since my days as Deputy Head at The Polesworth School, and more recently in her role as Deputy Director of the IoE.

Many of you will know Caroline as a trusted colleague, a professional mentor during your teacher training, or the reassuring presence behind your ECT programme. Her influence has been profound, shaping the professional journeys of countless teachers across our trust. Caroline's warmth, professionalism, and unwavering dedication have left a legacy that will be felt for years to come.

While we will miss her deeply, Caroline will continue to innovate through her role as specialist network chair of the leadership and coaching group where she is leading our Coaching Champions initiative. We are incredibly proud to see her take on the role of Deputy Head at The Polesworth School. I have no doubt she will continue to inspire and lead with the same passion and integrity that have defined her work with us. Please join me in wishing Caroline every success in this exciting new chapter.

I look forward to seeing many of you at **CATalyst25** in Birmingham, details of which you'll find in the next few pages.

Alexis Rickus  
Director of the CAT Institute of Education



# Meet Tracey Campbell: Champion for Change in Behaviour Management

**Tracey Campbell is a powerhouse in the field of behaviour transformation. As Director and Lead Trainer of *Together Transforming Behaviour Ltd*, she brings unmatched energy, empathy, and expertise to her work as a Behaviour Management Consultant, Coach, Trainer, Teacher, Speaker, and Author.**

Tracey's journey began in the primary classroom, where her vibrant teaching style and natural connection with children quickly set her apart. Her exceptional ability to engage pupils—especially those struggling with behaviour—led to her becoming one of the UK's first Advanced Skills Teachers in Behaviour Management.

But Tracey's story is more than professional accolades. She speaks candidly about her own turbulent school years, marked by multiple exclusions and disruptive behaviour. One moment in particular shaped her future:

*"I remember being sent out of class—again—and sitting on the corridor floor, angry and embarrassed. I was convinced no one cared. But then my teacher, Mrs. H, came and sat beside me. She didn't shout. She didn't lecture. She just said, 'Tracey, I see more in you than this.' That moment changed everything. For the first time, I felt seen—not just for my behaviour, but for my potential."*

That moment of compassion became the foundation of Tracey's mission: to help educators and parents see beyond the behaviour and connect with the child.

For over a decade, she has worked with thousands of professionals and families, helping them move from frustration to confidence, and from conflict to connection. Her coaching is solution-focused, emotionally intelligent, and deeply rooted in empathy. She doesn't just teach strategies—she transforms mindsets.

Tracey is also the creator of the *Behaviour Basics for Parents* course, which gained national attention in Channel 4's *Mr Drew's School for Boys*. Her powerful work on the show led to appearances on ITV's *This Morning* and BBC Radio 5 Live, where she shared her insights on parenting and behaviour with a wider audience.

Her books—*Will You Be the One?* and *Behaviour Basics for Parents*—are heartfelt calls to action for anyone working with children who challenge the norm. Her message is clear: the children who seem hardest to reach are often the ones who need us the most.

Tracey Campbell is unapologetically passionate, relentlessly hopeful, and a true advocate for children who are too often misunderstood. Her work continues to inspire a new generation of educators and parents to lead with love, consistency, and courage.

Tracey Campbell is our keynote speaker and will be leading **CATalyst25: Inspiring Excellence: shaping a strong, positive culture**, our Trust Conference on Friday 27 June at Eastside Rooms, Birmingham





Time	CATalyst25: Inspiring Excellence: shaping a strong, positive culture	Room
9.00 9.30	Arrival by Coach from schools. Registration on Coach Tea and coffee on arrival <b>Welcome: CEO Philip Hamilton OBE</b>	<b>Affinity Suite</b> All Staff
9.45	<b>Keynote: Tracey Campbell, Academy for Behaviour Leadership, Will you be the One?</b> Tracey's keynote leaves listeners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>empowered to face the challenges of post-Covid education with grit and grace.</li> <li>confident that they can cultivate the kind of heart that welcomes all and the kind of skill that can reach all.</li> <li>equipped with skills needed to prioritise their own wellbeing alongside the welfare of students.</li> <li>renewed in their commitment to ensure excellence for all students on great days and grey days.</li> </ul>	<b>Affinity Suite</b> All Staff
10.45-11.00 11-12.30	Break – Toilets and Refreshment Stations can be found on all three floors <b>Workshop One: Will you be the One? Their Behaviour, Our Responses (Tracey Campbell)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding causes of behaviour "flashpoints"</li> <li>Knowing what constitutes an effective response to behaviour</li> <li>Understanding the need to be a "warm demander"</li> </ul>	<b>Affinity Suite</b> All staff
12.30-1.30	Lunch will be served at 8 buffet stations located across all three floors and in the hotel lobby. Eastside staff will be on hand to direct you	
1.30-2.30	<b>Breakout Rooms – Choose to attend one of the following two workshops</b> <b>Workshop Two: Behaviour Leadership: Managing Students; Mobilising Staff (Tracey Campbell)</b> This workshop seeks to help leaders understand how to have a lasting impact on behaviour culture, through the building of robust systems and provision of high-quality support. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify skills needed to lead colleagues through behaviour and culture change</li> <li>Know how to support colleague to teach positive behaviour as a priority for school improvement</li> <li>Understand how to create and embed effective behaviour policy into everyday behaviour practice</li> </ul> <b>Workshop Three: High Expectations and High Regard: The way to calm classrooms (Facilitated by individual schools)</b> School teams to examine the central components of the high expectations and high regard approach. School teams will be split into three groups using scenarios from their everyday practice to better understand and examine the implications and impact of each of the three approaches listed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High expectations</li> <li>High regard</li> <li>High expectations and high regard</li> </ul>	<b>Affinity 1</b> Behaviour Leads, Pastoral Staff, SENDCOs & Inclusion  <b>Breakout rooms</b> Allocated in school teams
2.45-3.15	<b>Plenary: Led by Tracey Campbell</b>	<b>Affinity Suite</b> All Staff
3.15	<b>Return to school on coaches</b>	



**Banish that FOMO! Click on the flyer to listen to Tracey tell you why this conference matters!**



# **INSPIRING EXCELLENCE; SHAPING A STRONG, POSITIVE CULTURE**

**FRIDAY 27TH JUNE 2025. EASTSIDE ROOMS, BIRMINGHAM**

**Post-COVID classrooms need a radical, relational and restorative approach to behaviour to reestablish cooperation between students and staff.**

Come and spend a whole day, looking at whole school behaviour...

**Will you be the One? Keynote:**

Touching the hearts of staff, changing the lives of students

**Will you be the One? Workshop:**

A balanced approach to whole school behaviour

**Behaviour Leadership: Workshop:**

Managing students, mobilising staff

**Breakout Groups:**

A clear plan for improved practice



**Conference Facilitator: Tracey Campbell**

Keynote Speaker | Behaviour Consultant | Trainer | Author

Tracey is a captivating speaker and trainer with a clear message to adults working in schools: Will you be the one to choose to cherish your students in their challenging moments?



The **ACADEMY**  
for **BEHAVIOUR**  
**LEADERSHIP**







# Trust Network Groups: Connecting Schools, Inspiring Excellence.

Update by Director Network Groups, Neil Coleman

At the Community Academies Trust, our network groups continue to play a vital role in fostering collaboration, creativity, and shared success across our schools. This term, we are delighted to highlight several exciting initiatives that are bringing our students and staff together in meaningful and memorable ways.

## Football at Aston Villa: A Premier League Experience

We are thrilled to announce that our upcoming Trust Football Competition will take place at the Aston Villa Training Ground. This exciting event will bring together teams from Y3/4, offering students the unique opportunity to play at a professional-level facility. The competition promises to be a celebration of teamwork, talent, and sportsmanship, and we are grateful to Aston Villa FC for their generous support.

## Cross-Trust Textiles Project: Creating a Masterpiece of Unity

Our Art and Design network group has launched an ambitious cross-Trust project involving students from Year 2 to Year 12. Exploring the theme of *Unity* this project will culminate in a large-scale wall hanging, showcasing the creativity and voices of students from across our Trust. This initiative highlights the power of the arts to connect, inspire, and express what it means to be part of a community.

These projects are just a few examples of the rich and varied work taking place across our network groups. By bringing together staff and students from different schools, we continue to build a culture of collaboration, innovation, and shared achievement.

Dates for next year have now been fixed. Please make a note and support your networking group.

### Specialist Network Meetings: 3:40 - 4:40 p.m.

#### Autumn 1.

Specialist Network meeting - Wednesday 24 September 2025

#### Spring 1.

Specialist Network meeting - Wednesday 28 January 2026

#### Summer 1.

Specialist Network meeting - Wednesday 6 May 2026

### Curriculum Network Meetings: 3:40 - 4:40 p.m.

#### Autumn 2.

Curriculum Network meeting - Wednesday 26 November 2025

#### Spring 2.

Curriculum Network meeting - Wednesday 18 March 2026

#### Summer 2.

Curriculum Network meeting - Wednesday 24 June 2026

## Pupil Enrichment Activities

We are eager to continue offering our enrichment days and shared experiences for children. The dates for these events will be communicated to schools throughout the year once they have been confirmed with their networks.

***"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."***  
- Henry Ford.

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## Enrichment Events: Dates for your diaries.....

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### Stitching Together: Creating a Masterpiece of Unity

Join us for an exciting and creative adventure!

**On 31st June and 1st July, pupils from across our trust will come together to contribute to a fantastic textile art project.**

We'll be creating a collaborative wall-hanging on the inspiring theme of 'Unity'.

This project will be led by the talented Mary Taylor of Crazy Mary Crafts. Mary is an experienced primary school teacher and craft tutor who brings art projects to life for schools and community groups. You can check out her amazing work on her website <https://www.crazymarycrafts.co.uk/> and the schools' gallery page of her blog. <https://crazymarycrafts.wordpress.com/gallery/>.

**31st June at Budbrooke Primary School  
1st July at Dordon Primary School**

Don't miss this chance to be part of something special! For more information, please contact Art Curriculum Network Chair, Laura Aston [aston.l@welearn365.com](mailto:aston.l@welearn365.com)

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## Trust Football Competition 2025: A Premier League Experience

When: Friday 20th June 12-30pm - 2:30pm

Where: Brookvale Academy, Witton Lane, Birmingham, B6 6HE

Who: Games will be 6 a side. Squads of up to 8.

Schools across the Community Academies Trust to take part in the 2025 Trust Football Competition—hosted at the prestigious Aston Villa Training Ground. This promises to be a memorable afternoon of sport, teamwork, and friendly competition.



### Important Information:

- All games will be played **indoors**—please ensure pupils wear appropriate footwear and sportswear.
- Pupils should bring a **packed lunch** and a **water bottle**.
- A **winner will be crowned** for each event, so bring your A-game!

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to experience a professional football environment while representing their school with pride. We look forward to seeing you there! More information from PE Network Chair Tom Chape: [chape.t1@welearn365.com](mailto:chape.t1@welearn365.com).

# Our Half Term in Pictures



## And finally.....

Hopefully you found us on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/schoolscat/> (#schoolscat) as well as on X @SchoolsCat (#catschools). Follow us and we'll follow you back.

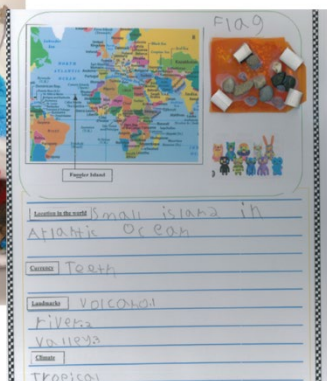
Check out the winning entries from the 8 schools that took part in the CAT Geography Competition. Schools were asked to invent an island, and to think carefully about the geographical features they would include.

The winners of each Key Stage are featured here:



Key Stage 1

1st Place KS1  
Grange Park



**Key stage 1: 1<sup>st</sup> place-** Grange Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Stratford Primary, 3<sup>rd</sup> place- Birchwood Primary

**Key Stage 2: 1<sup>st</sup> place-** Heathcote, 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Stratford Primary, 3<sup>rd</sup> place- Grange Park

**Key Stage 3: 1<sup>st</sup> place-** Polesworth High School, 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Polesworth High school.



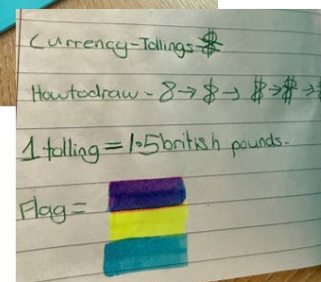
Ryan's FunLand

Heathcote - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Key Stage 2



1<sup>st</sup> Place-  
Polesworth -  
Amelia Hutton 7K



# Our Community Matters

