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Mr Ben Brown

Chair of Trustees



I am very proud to introduce Astrea's Annual Report as we look back on all the achievements this year.

Our most important asset is our staff and I want to thank and congratulate them for their hard work over the last 12 months. I have visited a number of our schools and the welcome has been unwavering. We have challenged our teaching community to ask more of their students when it comes to behaviour and focus, and this is now being delivered at all schools across the Trust. The resolute commitment our staff have to the wellbeing and safeguarding of all children in our schools points to a deep commitment to giving every one of them the best start in life. We are looking to all of our staff in the coming year to continue this excellent work, which will support children to achieve the best possible outcomes.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow trustees and governors at all of our schools. They volunteer their time to the Trust and every school on what they provide to the children and our local communities.

When I joined the Trust three-and-a-half years ago, just one in four of our schools was judged by Ofsted to be at least 'Good'. As I write today, all of our schools have now achieved this rating. This is a fantastic achievement by everyone at Astrea!

In particular, I would like to pick out Astrea Academy Woodfields as an example of the transformation that is possible. Last year, for the first time in the community's history, Woodfields was recognised as 'Good' overall. Ofsted made a point of recognising such an incredible transformation, describing the school as having "improved rapidly" and highlighting the change of culture within the school.

One of the other areas that has really stood out for me this year is the growing confidence of our students to be able to talk about their learning and the other areas of school they are engaged with. I love the student panels I hear from during my visits as they give me a real insight into the progress being made.

This year also marks the end of our 2025 strategy which means that we are developing strategy for the next five years, to which principals and chairs across the Trust are contributing. For me, it is essential that every Astrea school sees itself - and is seen - at the heart of the community that it serves.

Trustees



Dr Tesca Bennett

Vice Chair, Chair of Education and Standards



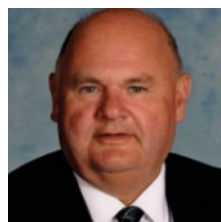
Chris Rossiter

Chair of People and Remuneration



Louise Cooper

Chair of Risk Assurance



Nick Cragg

Chair of Finance and Budget



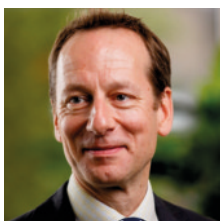
Faye Craster



Kim Duff



Bill McHugh



Peter Burrows



Dr Meesha Warmington



Marina Muirhead

Welcome from our CEO



The past year has been one of considerable progress and achievement across our family of schools. Most notably, we have reached a significant milestone: all of our schools are now rated 'Good' by Ofsted. This is a tremendous accomplishment that reflects the dedication, expertise, and collaborative spirit of our staff, students and families.

While we celebrate the achievements of the past year, our focus is firmly on the future. At the heart of our vision is a continued commitment to academic excellence, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to learn, thrive and lead a successful life. Alongside this, we recognise the critical importance of creating an inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported.

As part of our strategic priorities, we will be dedicating significant resources to strengthening our approach for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We are determined to ensure that every child, whatever their starting point, has access to the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to flourish.

Building a sense of community is also at the core of our mission. We want every Astrea school to be a hub of belonging, where students, staff, and families work together to create supportive, collaborative environments. Initiatives like family engagement events and student leadership programmes reflect our ongoing commitment to nurturing meaningful connections within and beyond our school gates.

Looking ahead, I have every confidence that we will build on the successes of this year, reflect on where we need to do more, and move forwards to deliver an even greater impact in the lives of our students and communities.



Rowena Hackwood

About Astrea

Starting out with six schools in 2016, we are now a thriving family of 26 academies throughout South Yorkshire and Cambridgeshire.

Our goal is to ensure that every child receives a high-quality education in a supportive, nurturing environment. We will do this by setting ambitious standards and working with dedication and persistence to achieve them. By removing barriers to success and nurturing a positive, scholarly culture of learning and behaviour for both students and staff, we aim to help all children thrive and lead fulfilling, successful lives.



Astrea in Numbers

26
ACADEMIES



14,000
PUPILS

£115
MILLION
TOTAL INCOME

2,000
MEMBERS
OF STAFF

**Reinvested
£4.2M**
back into schools
to improve facilities
and infrastructure

100%
RATED 'GOOD'

2
COUNTIES





Our Schools and Principals

PRIMARY



ATLAS ACADEMY

Melisha Trotman



BYRON WOOD
ACADEMY

Bee Wood



CARRFIELD
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Katie Adamski



CASTLE ACADEMY

Claire Blagden



DENABY MAIN
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Joanna White



EDENTHORPE HALL
ACADEMY

Tom Orr



GOOSEACRE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Jack Moore



GREENGATE LANE
ACADEMY

Kara Robinson



HARTLEY BROOK
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Claire Costello



Hatfield Academy

Katy Richards



HEXTHORPE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Jeni Harrison



HIGHGATE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Laura Sunley



THE HILL
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Michelle Cockayne



The Hilltoppers Nursery

Amy-Marie Fielding



INTAKE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Helen Broad



KINGFISHER
PRIMARY

Catherine Skinn



LOWER MEADOW
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Jane Dawtry



WAVERLEY
ACADEMY

Louise Stanton

SECONDARY



Amir Arezoo



David Scales



Zoe Andrews



Thomas Fisher



Catherine Cusick



Jonny Mitchell



Tony Meneagh

ALL-THROUGH



Rachel Flemming (Primary)
Dave Boyd (Secondary)

SPECIAL



Sue Raven

Student Spotlights



Longsands Academy
Nick and Isaac

Longsands Academy students achieved some incredible A Level results this year, with two pupils, Nick and Isaac, making successful applications to The University of Cambridge and The University of Oxford, respectively.



Ernulf Academy
Dylan and Edward

A select number of schools were invited to the Houses of Parliament for a reception aimed at decreasing the carbon footprint of schools. Dylan and Edward, two eco-ambassadors, represented the school incredibly well, networking with MPs and other stakeholders.



The Hill Primary Academy
Class 3G

Stephanie Peacock MP held a Christmas Card Competition for schools in Barnsley South, in which Class 3G of The Hill Primary Academy were crowned the winners. Their winning design was used by the MP to spread Christmas spirit throughout her constituency.



Astrea Academy Woodfields
Amarachi

Amarachi at Astrea Academy Woodfields was not only part of a group that was invited to perform poetry at the Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, but she also received a Highly Commended certificate from Poetry by Heart for her efforts. She is also the author of her very own book.



St Ivo Academy
Joe

After a year in the making, Joe finished building a scale model that will now be used as a display piece and training aid for engineering software company AVEVA. Joe created the structure using a 3D printer to help AVEVA to promote the range of installations their software can produce.



Lower Meadow Primary Academy
Eco Champions

Lower Meadow's Eco Champions were invited to attend the Schools' Climate Education South Yorkshire to learn more about the climate crisis and explore different solutions. The group represented the school brilliantly, sharing their own creative solutions.



Astrea Sheffield Primary Academy Dance Team

The Arches School Sport Partnership invited the Astrea Sheffield Primary Academy Dance Team to perform on stage for 'A Night at the Movies' at The Octagon Centre.



Netherwood Academy Class 7KRA

Golden tickets were awarded all round for Class 7KRA at Netherwood Academy for their support and contribution to Teaching and Learning assembly as part of their onboarding schedule. Each pupil represented two of the school's core values – tenacity and responsibility.



Kingfisher Primary Academy Kaiya

The Race for Life Pretty Muddy 5k in Doncaster was completed by Kaiya, a young pupil at Kingfisher Primary Academy. Her energy, dedication and flair for sports earned her an excellent completion in just 34 minutes and 28 seconds.



Hartley Brook Primary Academy Athletics Team

The Hartley Brook Athletics Team outperformed all other schools to win First Place in the Arches School Sports athletics competition and the Astrea Olympics.



Gooseacre Primary Academy Gooseacre Choir

The wonderful Gooseacre Choir performed beautifully at the Thurnscoe Christmas Lights Switch On event, petition and the Astrea Olympics.



Carrfield Primary Academy Ella

Ella was selected to play for Barnsley Schoolgirls Under 12 football team. She's described by Carrfield Primary as the very definition of their school values.

Academic Outcomes

PRIMARY

Area	2023-24 Results
Good Level of Development	61% ↑ (from 2022)
Phonics	77% ↑ (from 2022)
Multiplication Tables Check	18.9 ↑ (from 2022)
KS2 Reading	62% ↑ (from 2022)
KS2 Writing	61% ↑ (from 2022)
KS2 Maths	63% ↑ (from 2022)
KS2 Combined	50% ↑ (from 2022)



SECONDARY

Area	2023-24 Results
A8	43.35 ↑ (from 2019)
9-5 English & Maths	41.6% ↑ (from 2019)
9-5 English	57.8% ↑ (from 2019)
9-5 Maths	46.8% ↑ (from 2019)

POST-16 DESTINATIONS

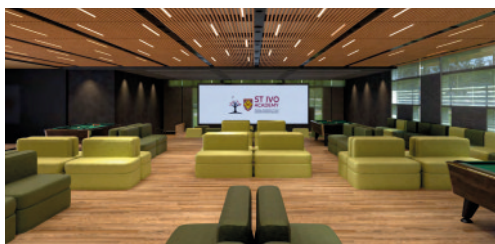
Recent Higher Education destinations include:

Bath		Cambridge	
Liverpool		Newcastle	
Nottingham		Oxford	
Sheffield		Southampton	
Warwick		York	

Achievements and Celebrations

St Ivo Academy unveil Sixth Form investment plans.

The new centre will have a more 'college or university-like feel', whilst offering the familiar benefits at the school, with caring staff, and lots of opportunities for students. There will be new spaces for students to socialise and study, offering a high-quality learning environment for the community of St Ives.



St Ivo Academy

Lower Meadow earns national awards for environmental efforts.

Lower Meadow Primary Academy in Sheffield has been awarded the Green Flag Award from the Eco Schools programme. The pupils' environmental efforts, such as creating a sensory garden with bug hotels and bird feeders, have seen them win this official accreditation. The school was also named the Nature Prize Winner by Let's Go Zero for their eco-friendly efforts.



Lower Meadow Primary Academy

Hartley Brook Primary Academy



Hartley Brook Primary Academy earns Platinum award for sporting prowess.

Hartley Brook Primary Academy in Sheffield has been awarded the government-led, nationally recognised Platinum School Games Mark. The school is well known locally for its high ambitions in sport, offering more than 20 extra-curricular sports clubs a week, including SEND activities like boccia, sitting volleyball and ten-pin bowling.

New outdoor gym equipment for Carrfield Primary Academy.

Key Stage 2 Carrfield Primary Academy pupils are enjoying their brand-new outdoor gym equipment which was recently installed by Fresh Air Fitness.



Carrfield Primary Academy

Hexthorpe Primary Academy gifted a unique new outdoor library.

Pupils at Hexthorpe Primary Academy now have their own special reading room full of books, after Freightliner gave the school a shipping container to transform into a reader's paradise.

Refurbished library offers Edenthorpe Hall Academy pupils a creative place to read.

The newly refurbished library is a warm and colourful reading area to encourage more young pupils to read and use their imagination.

New community library for parents and pupils at Waverly Primary Academy.

Waverley Primary Academy have designed a new library to create a space pupils can visit with their families to encourage the whole family to read together.

School leaders were highly praised by Ofsted in its last inspection report for "prioritising reading across the school", a "consistent approach to the teaching of reading" and "high quality staff training" to help them teach reading.

Hatfield Primary Academy named School of the Month.

Sheffield Young Carers named Hatfield Primary Academy their School of the Month in recognition of their staff training and continued support for young carers.

Astrea Academy Trust – Environmental MAT of the Year 2024 (MAT Excellence Awards)

Catering – Team of the year Finalists 2024 – TUCO Awards

Trust-wide careers programme, 'Shaping Futures', nationally recognised in the Gatsby Charitable Foundation's 'Good Careers Guidance for the Next Ten Years'.



Hexthorpe Primary Academy



Waverly Primary Academy



Hatfield Primary Academy



Above and Beyond

Gary Ward – Caretaker

The Hill Primary Academy

Our caretakers work incredibly hard each and every day, but in November 2024 Gary Ward of The Hill Primary Academy went above and beyond to ensure the smooth running of the school. After an incident left part of the school without electricity, Gary, who hadn't been scheduled to work the full day, decided to stay and work late into the night to ensure the problem was resolved so pupils could return to learning the next day.



Kelly Garbett - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Hexthorpe Academy

As Designated Safeguarding Lead at Hexthorpe Academy, Kelly Garbett has a deep understanding of the needs of the school's pupils and parent community. With the support of other colleagues, Kelly goes the extra mile to provide additional support for families, including community support initiatives such as a food bank, a clothing store and adult learning classes covering topics on everything from personal finance to cooking.

Jonathan Timmis, Guy Johnson, Reece Sherwood, Adam Knowles, Dave Scott-Hepburn, Sky Gray, Taryn Edge, Stephanie Crow and Ross Cooper.

Astrea Academy Trust

Several Central Astrea Academy Trust staff teamed up in September 2024 for a charity run to raise funds for schools. The team entered the 5k Jane Tomlinson's Run For All and raised valuable funds to contribute towards extra-curricular activities such as field trips, sports, forest schools, art and cultural activities which all broaden their experience of school life and contribute to an all-inclusive culture.



Rob Chambers - National Geography Lead

Astrea Academy Trust

As the National Geography Lead at Astrea Academy Trust, Rob Chambers is passionate about taking good care of the natural world. He constantly works hard to lead on eco-friendly initiatives and sharing key messages to inspire others, which has led to some brilliant achievements, including: Green Flag Eco Award for The Hill Primary School; invitation to the Go Green Conference at the Houses of Parliament and the Trust being named the Environmental Trust of the Year in the MAT Excellence Awards 2024.

Marie Coffield and Sabaa Hussain – Teaching Staff

Astrea Academy Woodfields

Two Astrea Academy Woodfields teachers were recognised in The Pearson National Teaching Awards 2024. Marie Coffield and Sabaa Hussain were named Teacher of the Year and Outstanding New Teacher of the Year, respectively, for their extraordinary contributions to the school.



National Spotlight



David Scales – Principal at Woodfields Academy

Big Issue

'We're stepping in to help kids eat': Schools forced to dip into their own budgets to feed pupils.



Richard Tutt – Director of Secondary education

Schools Week

Reading aloud: How we're tackling the literacy gap.



Matt Carnaby – Director of Curriculum and Assessment

Tes and Schools Week

How our curriculum booklets support teacher autonomy.



Tomas Thurogood-Hyde, DCS, and Dave Scott-Hepburn, Head of Health and Safety

Tes

The importance of trust insurance - and assurance.



Nicky Turner – Primary EYFS Lead

The Voice of Early Childhood

Aligning learning environments with the needs of the brain.



Parent Voices

It is vital that our academies listen carefully to, and act upon, parent feedback. Working in tandem with parents and allowing them to have a voice that is clearly heard will not only strengthen our sense of community, but will also improve the quality of education and pastoral care our pupils receive.

Through community advisory groups; 'You Said, We Did' initiatives; interactive surveys and parent committees, our academies provide a wide range of opportunities for parents to submit important feedback.

"Good encouragement for children to come out of their comfort zones."

"The learning is great. My son is catching up."



"The after school clubs are really good."

"All aspects of learning and need are met at all times."

"The school helps us with our problems."



"Thank you for supporting my child through her anxieties and helping her through it."

"I'm so happy to see my son's progress. So happy for all the teachers who are so good with my son."



"He comes home having learned something new every day!"

"... I've just been to the Year 6 to 7 transition evening and I was very impressed. The Head was warm, passionate about education and about getting it right for the children. Everything she said was everything you'd want to hear as a parent of a child attending that school."

"A huge well done to all involved at Astrea Ernulf for being part of this heartwarming cause!"

"My daughter enjoys being in class. As a parent, I am happy that I can approach the teacher and talk to her if I have any issues."

"This was such an amazing opportunity for these students to engage with our government on meaningful issues..."

"Again, thank you and your team for your support... we as parents have been very impressed with the way you have supported us as a family."

"Thank you so very much for the seven years of support teaching and care from every single staff member and children throughout intake primary! [My son] has grown into the person he is today thanks to you all and we will forever be grateful for all you've done!"

"I am amazed. He always wants to be in school."

Spotlight on Safeguarding

We take pride in our strong culture of safeguarding. Our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and adults is paramount to our strategy. All academies have a specialist trained safeguarding lead and an extended safeguarding team, who are responsible for working with students, parents/carers and external agencies to implement responsive and preventative safeguarding support.

The academy safeguarding teams are supported by our experienced central safeguarding team, who lead on safeguarding compliance. This includes leading annual safeguarding quality assurance reviews in every academy. The review process confirms areas of compliance and supports leaders to implement swift action planning where necessary, to achieve consistent high-quality practice.

Every community faces different challenges, consequently individual academy safeguarding leads work closely with local safeguarding partners to ensure children and families get the right support at the right time. This includes strong links with local policing teams, local authority children's services, food banks, mental health services amongst others.

Looking after our safeguarding leaders is our absolute priority. The role of the safeguarding lead can be challenging, the central safeguarding team respond to this through the offer of safeguarding supervision, advice calls and regular

networking opportunities. This offer ensures safeguarding practitioners are supported to manage the emotional impact of their roles as well as learning and developing through collective contribution.

Astrea central safeguarding team leads on the development and production of the safeguarding training pathway. The pathway is bespoke to each role, ensuring all employees can be confident in their safeguarding responsibilities. The team maintains a bank of training resources as well as commissioning specialist speakers to attend networking events, supporting safeguarding leaders in their duty to keep academy staff teams up-to-date.

Astrea Academy Trust strives to be a leading partner in the safeguarding in education sector. The Head of Safeguarding is a member of the National Association of Academy Safeguarding Advisors and regularly presents at local and national conferences on subjects such as the safeguarding supervision model and producing a high quality CPD offer. Through NAASA, the Head of Safeguarding works closely with over 60 MAT partners to consider, challenge and shape national policy and respond to evolving contextual safeguarding issues.



HARTLEY BROOK
PRIMARY ACADEMY



FARMER DUCK



CASILE A.P.
Active Learning
Reading & Writing

Contact us



info@astreaacademytrust.org



www.astreaacademytrust.org



Astrea Academy Trust



@astreaacademies



Astrea Academy Trust

Visit our website or follow us on social media to keep up to date with news and updates from the Trust. Alternatively, if you have an enquiry or want to speak with a member of staff, please contact us to find out more.









Astrea Academy Trust
INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE



0114 478 3830



info@astreaacademytrust.org



www.astreaacademytrust.org



The Quadrant
99 Parkway Avenue
Sheffield
S9 4WG