



Campaign Pack

Support and Challenge Group Member



Headteachers' Welcome

Dear Prospective Support & Challenge Group Member,

Thank you in advance for your interest and support of transforming Futures Trust and our school communities.

The Trust engages with pupils who have a range of special educational needs, and also require specialist attention of one or more dedicated staff. Our staff are highly skilled and have developed excellent practice in all aspects of their work.

We value people and our staff are our most important asset, whether as teachers or teaching assistants as well as support staff in roles such as cleaners and admin, our job is simply to transform futures.

There will a Support & Challenge Group per Academy, which will meet once per term. The meetings will be virtual. However, there will expectations around being able to undertake academy visits upon occasions as well as an occasional meeting that may be on site.

Please refer to Appendix 1 which lays out the schematic areas of responsibility for the Support & Challenge Groups.

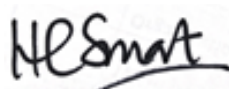
If you would like to talk about the role further, we would be happy to speak to each prospective member personally. Whether you are interested in working for any of our Schools or would prefer to express an interest in one School in particular if you have a passion to provide support in our committed and dynamic team then please let us know your preference and in the meantime we look forward to hearing from you.



Matt Bindon
Head Teacher ACE Schools



Lee Earnshaw
Head Teacher Courtlands



Hannah Smart
Head Teacher ACE Tiverton

Transforming Futures Multi-Academy Trust

About the Trust

Transforming Futures Trust works with children for whom mainstream education is not right: young people with behavioural challenges; children with mental health concerns; students who find the traditional setting of a school intimidating. It is not an exaggeration to say that we change these young people's lives. Our extraordinary staff can connect with these children and apply the principles of trauma informed care to enable them to reach their potential.

Transforming Futures Trust's core aim is to create 'positive futures for all'. We are building a culture of Trauma Informed Practice in all our schools which supports the wellbeing and development of all children and young people, Headteachers, School staff, parents/carers and stakeholders and the wider communities they are a part of. We have proven educational practice and strong leadership which has enabled us to develop new provisions across the southwest to meet the needs of children and families which have not been met in existing schools in the area. Since it was established, TFT has developed a highly effective internal capacity to support schools in their work with children and young people, helping them to make the biggest difference to their life chances.

Transforming Futures Trust was formally set up on 1st June 2016 (previously known as ACE Schools Multi Academy Trust) with the aim of growing from a single educational provision in Plymouth into a group of Schools across Devon and Cornwall. Our simple aim is to support the development and improvement of the education for all pupils within the Trust and beyond through school-to-school support.

Transforming Futures Multi Academy Trust has bases across Cornwall, Plymouth and Devon. We support up to 500 pupils each year ranging from Year 1 to Year 11. Pupils that we work with often have complex needs and as a result don't currently attend mainstream or special schools' settings. Our aspiration for all pupils is that we can support them to return to a specialist or mainstream settings and our focus is providing our young people with the skills necessary to make this transition successful.

The Trust and its Academies are based across 13 sites in the three localities; these sites are divided into three primary areas of need. These include:

- bases to support young people's health and welfare; this can include mental and physical illness that prevents them from attending school
- reintegration and intervention bases to support young people with challenging behaviour and social emotional needs back into school
- WRAP around Educational Support bases where we provide one to one support for pupils with Educational Health Care Plans.

We currently employ over 300 staff across the Trust in a range of positions. At present in the Academies we have variety of different roles and responsibilities across the team ranging from welfare, curriculum and professional development leads.

About our Academies



ACE School

ACE schools is an alternative provision based across Cornwall, Plymouth, and Devon. We support up to 500 pupils each year ranging from Year 1 to Year 11. Pupils that we work with often have complex needs and as a result of this don't currently attend mainstream or special schools' settings. Our aspiration for all pupils is that we can support them to return to a specialist or mainstream settings and our focus is providing our young people with the skills necessary to make this transition successful.

The school is based on 11 sites across the three localities and these sites are divided into three primary areas of need. These include bases to support young people's health and welfare and this can include mental and physical illness that prevents them from attending school, reintegration, and intervention bases to support young people with challenging behaviour and social emotional needs back into school; WRAP bases where we provide one to one support for pupils with EHCP plans.

We currently employ over 200 members of staff across the school in a range of positions. At present in the school, we have 23 different roles and responsibilities across the team ranging from welfare, curriculum, and professional development leads.

In February 2019 Ofsted inspected the whole school rated us as a 'good school' and we are incredibly proud of the report.



ACE Tiverton Special School

ACE Tiverton is a new 11-16 special school, which opened in September 2019 with 35 students across Years 7-11. This year we have expanded to 60 students and we expect to be full in 2021 with up to 75 students. We are a Free School with a designation for supporting students with high functioning Autistic Spectrum Condition and related Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs.

All our students have an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) and are supported in their tutor and teaching groups by teachers and teaching assistants. We aim to keep our groups small with no more than 10 students, allowing us to deliver the personalised, differentiated learning that enables our students to succeed. Our school is a welcoming, inclusive, and safe learning environment in which vulnerable pupils are valued, cherished, and nurtured. Our priority is engagement and strong relationships. Our students are all bright, humorous, and interesting young people with their own backgrounds, stories, and contexts. Many have been out of full-time education for significant periods before coming to us. They thrive in an environment built on mutual respect, genuine interest, and transparency. 'Unconditional positive regard' is our mantra and we firmly believe that every day is a new start.

Our talented, experienced team of staff take pride in working relentlessly to ensure that every individual leaves us as a confident young adult who is well prepared for their life after Year 11, whether they go into employment or take up further education opportunities. At times,

such as when meeting new staff for the first time, our students can be challenging and seek to test out boundaries and expectations. All staff carry radios to communicate with one another and we work as a team to support each other as quickly and calmly as possible.



Courtlands School

Courtlands is a friendly and ambitious school which is part of Transforming Futures Trust in Plymouth which caters for primary aged children (4-11) with Moderate Learning Difficulties and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. Our innovative curriculum is based on meeting individual's needs rather than schemes of work, and it provides a wide range of curriculum and therapeutic input.

Our children love coming to school and enjoy all that we have to offer, through their therapies to the extra-curricular clubs and activities, but most of all the personal relationships they have with their peers and us. They tell us that they feel very safe and well cared for and proud when they make progress. They behave exceptionally well when calmly and consistently supported to reflect on their own needs and learn to empathise with others and to be proud of their own achievements.

For the last three years we have been on a journey to become a trauma informed community, responding to the adverse childhood experiences of many of our pupils, including challenging school experiences before being matched with the right setting for them. Three of our staff are qualified as Trauma Informed and Mental Health Practitioners through the TISUK post graduate diploma and all our staff have received extensive training and support on relationships which place playfulness, acceptance, curiosity, and empathy at the heart of our work alongside our pupils.

We believe that *every* interaction, no matter how fleeting, is the opportunity for an intervention to help our pupils grow as people who know how awesome and valued, they are, especially at times they are struggling and communicate through unkind or unsafe behaviour. We want staff who see the children's challenges for what they are, who can use PACE with the best of them, and can remain calm under pressure.

Role Summary

An exciting opportunity for a Support and Challenge Members at our three Schools,.

The main purpose of the role is to be a member of the Support and Challenge Group, which provides governance at a local level on behalf of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with the Trust Scheme of Delegation.

Further information of the schematic areas of responsibility can be found in Appendix 1

Meeting Frequency & Location

The meetings will be once per term (there may be additional meetings if required), with the commitment to undertake school visits outside of these meeting dates. Meetings will be virtual, but on occasion may be required to meet on site.

Further information on the Trust Governance can be found at:

<https://www.transformingfutures.org.uk/page/?title=Governance%2C+Responsibility+%26amp%3B+Leadership&pid=68>

For more information or to arrange an informal discussion please contact the Governance Team at admin@transformingfutures.org.uk, or alternatively please complete and submit the Expression of Interest Form at Appendix 2