



Dear Parent/Guardian

Gosforth Schools' Trust

The Gosforth Schools' Trust was launched at a celebratory event at Gosforth Civic Hall on Friday 23 May, with a strong message of encouragement and support from our main guest, Catherine McKinnell MP. All of the invited guests were entertained by Gosforth Voices and the Gosforth Band who were excellent and showed everyone how collaboration is already happening in our schools. To show how further collaboration will take place, the first copies of our Development Plan were distributed. A copy of the plan is available on the school website. This is very much a dynamic document which will evolve over time.

The plan features the new logo for the Trust which was a combination of two designs by pupils from Archibald First School and Broadway East First School. Each school had submitted a design after a competition and the winners from each school all attended the event. Representatives of each School Council also attended the event and did a splendid job of getting guests and showing them to their seats and distributing the copies of the plan. A really good suggestion was made that representatives of the schools councils could form a 'shadow board' which could liaise directly with the main Board. This suggestion will be followed up by the Steering Group.

The first members of the Board of Directors have been appointed by each of the schools and the Local Authority. They are;

John Davison (Governor, Archibald First)

Julie Robson (Head, Archbishop Runcie First)

Helen McKenna (Head, Broadway East First)

Gill McKay (Head, Brunton First)

Martin Fletcher (Governor, Dinnington First)

Philip Cunningham (Governor, Gosforth Park First)

Chris Jewett (Governor, Grange First)

Deborah Ashcroft (Head, Regent Farm First)

Jo Elliott (Head, South Gosforth First)

Jeremy Bell (Governor, Gosforth Central)

Tim Stout (Head, Gosforth East Middle)

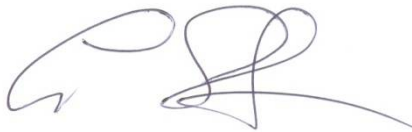
Deb Tyler (Newcastle City Council)

George Snaith (Chair of Steering Group)

There are still five vacancies and it is hoped that they will be filled with strategic partners over the next few months following conversations with suitable organisations, many of which were represented at the launch event. Each governing body for the 10 schools which changed status, now has two Foundation Governors who will provide another link between the Board and the Governors (Archbishop Runcie First is already a Trust and therefore did not need to do this).

The first meeting of the Board is still to be planned as there is still work for the Steering group to carry out but it is hoped that a meeting can be held either before the end of this term or at the very latest in early September. The important message is that having established the parent company and the Board members we do not need to rush. We can take time to ensure that our future direction, as we have always said, is for the benefit of current and future pupils.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Snaith', with a stylized, cursive script.

George Snaith

Chair of the Gosforth Schools' Trust Steering Group