

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

WHAT IMPACT DO WE HAVE ON OTHERS

TRUST NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2 2025



Wilfred Owen
Primary School



Market Drayton
Junior School



Greenacres
Primary School



St Mary's
CE Primary & Nursery School



Woodfield
Infant School



St George's
Junior School



Shropshire
Primary Partnership



Market Drayton
Infant & Nursery School

Collaboration • Aspirations • Respect • Possibility



St Peter's
CE Primary & Nursery School





Carla Whelan
CEO

WHAT IMPACT DO WE HAVE ON OTHERS

I am thrilled to share with you how we are making a positive impact in our local community. At Empower MAT, we believe that education is more than just academics, it's about nurturing the whole child and fostering a sense of community and belonging.

Every day, we strive to create a supportive and inspiring environment for our students. Our academies are not just places of learning; they are vibrant communities where children feel valued and empowered. We are dedicated to providing an exceptional education that nurtures both the academic and personal growth of every child.

One of the things I am most proud of is our strong connection with the local community. We work hand in hand with local organisations, parents, and stakeholders to ensure that our schools are places where everyone feels welcome and supported. Our governors and volunteers play a crucial role in this, and their dedication and passion are truly inspiring.

The impact of our work is evident in the smiles and successes of our students. We see children growing in confidence, developing new skills, and achieving their dreams. Our commitment to values driven education means that we are preparing our young people for life. We want every child to leave our schools ready to make a positive contribution to the world.

As we look to the future, we are excited about the possibilities ahead. We have big plans to continue enhancing our educational offerings and deepening our community engagement. Together, we can achieve great things and make a lasting difference in the lives of our students and the wider community.

#Choosetobekind
#Togetherwehavegotthis



WHAT IMPACT DO WE HAVE ON OTHERS?



Sam Scott
Director of Education

Since stepping into my role as Director of Education in September, I have had the unique privilege of engaging with the entire Empower Trust community. While I may not be directly involved in one specific school, my involvement with all our schools during the autumn and spring terms has been incredibly enriching. My work spans from building strong relationships with the Executive Team to collaborating with staff within each school community. This holistic approach allows me to understand and contribute to the collective growth and success of our trust.

One of the highlights of my autumn term was spending time at GA School. I was deeply impressed by how well the staff know their community and its children. The school leaders are dedicated to adapting and improving their strategies to meet the unique needs of their students, demonstrating a strong understanding of their school's context.

As a leader, my responsibility extends to guiding education across our family of schools. This role enables me to ensure that we provide the very best for our young people, fostering an environment where every student can thrive. Our investment into the NPQLT (National Professional Qualification for Leading Teaching) has significantly impacted the professional learning community through evidence based research. This initiative has enhanced the skills and knowledge of the staff in our schools, promoting continuous improvement and excellence in learning and teaching.

Our impact as Empower community is profound. By working together, we create a supportive and dynamic educational landscape that empowers both staff and students. Our collective efforts are shaping the future of education for our young people.



Rachel Butterfield
Trust SENDCo

As part of my Trust SENDCo role, I have been covering the SENDCo role at Greenacres since September. I feel incredibly proud to be a member of the Greenacres' school community AKA 'Team Greenacres' and actively advocate for and champion the school, children and staff who work tirelessly to support the needs of our children and families.

As a SENDCo, my priority is to be a champion for children with SEND but this also extends to supporting others to become champions too. This has led to the development of Greenacres' Inclusion Champions.

We have 6 Inclusion Champions in school who were given the role following a rigorous application process. Our Inclusion Champions have 2 simple and clear aims for our school community this year:

- Everyone feels that they belong.
- We celebrate our differences.

Our Inclusion Champions take their role very seriously and have taken the lead on how to achieve the above aims. I'm excited to see how their roles continue to develop and the positive impact on our school community as an outcome.

WHAT IMPACT DO WE HAVE ON OTHERS?



Michelle Harrington
Director of People
& Culture

I would highlight the incredible impact our apprentices have on the community. Jess, from our Shared Services Team, and Molly, from Greenacres school, are both pursuing a Business and Administration Apprenticeship. Jess has grown remarkably over the past 16 months, transforming from a shy newcomer to a confident, proactive team member. Molly and Jess have also benefited from shadowing each other, gaining valuable insights into their roles in different environments. Our apprenticeship program provides a comprehensive understanding of business operations and supports the development of essential skills.

Jess's project work is a prime example of meaningful contributions, enhancing the Trust's profile and improving communication with parents. With 11 active apprenticeships and more on the way, the positive impact on our community is significant, and we are proud to support their continued growth and success.



Jess Shore
Trust Business
Administration Apprentice

I always strive to be kind and make a positive impact on those around me. I believe that small acts of kindness can make a big difference, even if I just give someone a smile. Every day, I look for opportunities to spread kindness and support my community in meaningful ways.

I am also being a champion in the Empower community as I am leading an apprenticeship project focused on enhancing Direct Trust communication with parents. By utilising Arbor to its full potential, I aim to enhance and improve the way we connect with families by making our messages clearer, more efficient, and effective. This project is all about building stronger relationships and trust within our community, which will help our students succeed and thrive.



Lucy Copson
Trust Administrator

I try to make a difference by keeping everything running smoothly.

My apprenticeship in multichannel marketing shows helps me to grow and bring new ideas to the table. By learning these skills, I hope to spread the word about the trust's mission and successes, reaching more people in the community. Supporting the trust and encouraging a positive, collaborative atmosphere for everyone involved is important to me.



St Mary's

CE Primary & Nursery School

Where Every Day Matters & Everyone Counts

As a headteacher, I believe that when children are empowered to become champions in their community, they grow into well-rounded, empathetic individuals who understand the value of giving back. At St Mary's we have many community events to allow our children to foster a sense of responsibility and ownership, helping them to see themselves as active contributors and agent of change to the world around them.

Within the roles, whether it is hosting the elderly residents of the village or litter picking in the community it promote kindness, inclusivity, and leadership; skills that prepare our children for life's challenges. In championing their community, children embody our Trust values to be the best version of themselves to make a positive difference.

Champions in our community

Members of the student council and a friend went on a community spring clean. We used our new equipment donated by Shropshire Council which enabled the children to collect a whopping 7 bags of rubbish.

The children were great at scanning and spotting the litter and were expert users of the litter pickers.



Year 5 hosted grandparents and elderly residents of the village to a games afternoon. Great fun had by all playing chess, draughts, dominoes and other traditional games.



EMPOWERING EDUCATION



Woodfield
Infant School
Kind • Responsible • Hardworking



St George's
Junior School
Excellence & Enjoyment Are Achievable



Engaging with our communities extends beyond the curriculum. At Woodfield Infant & Nursery School and St. George's Junior School, we are extremely lucky to be supported by our joint PTFA; they are definitely champions of our community. Having a joint PTFA is a fantastic way to bring our two school communities together and for everyone to actively engage in fundraising activities for the benefit of all of our children. The PTFA aim to enhance and enrich the school experience and bring together parents, teachers and friends to help raise funds and strengthen the school community. As headteachers of the schools, we support the PTFA in all of their ventures throughout the year and we are incredibly grateful to them.

In 23/24, our PTFA raised a phenomenal £19,000. This was possible due to the sheer hard work and determination of our PTFA community and the generous support of the schools' communities. This in turn meant that the educational experience of our all of our children, across both schools, was enhanced.



What does Community mean to Woodfield Infant School and St. George's Junior School?

Caring and connection

Open hands

Making a difference

Making space for everyone

Understanding need, united strength

Interest in each other

Talking together we find our space

Yearning for a better world, together we make a difference

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

Our community hub is successful in supporting our families. We have nurses, early help and other services available.

This helps our families to be supported with any challenges.

Together, community finds solutions.

Our schools connect through shared partnership and believing in making a difference to our shared community.



As a school, our community links mean a lot to us. They mean we can offer our children different experiences and enhance their school life. We support our local foodbank where possible by always having a donation point and focusing on this with our Harvest and Reverse Harvest collections. We work closely with the Town and Parish Council to support events and competitions; they support us too - this year we have had a funded Cookery Club for Year 6! We also have a great relationship with St Peter's and our town churches. We often have visitors in to Worship and we support events as well.

The biggest way we are champions in our community is by ensuring we promote our Trust and School values in all we do. We want all of our children and families to dream, believe, achieve and flourish and take this out into the wider world. We have a lot of discussions in worship and assemblies about the impact us being that shining light can have on everyone around us. Children often say that if everyone in the wider world lived by our values, there would be less sadness and upset in the world. They understand that kindness starts with them and ripples out.





Market Drayton

Infant & Nursery School

Having a broad and exciting curriculum which is enhanced and enriched by quality visits and visitors into school is something that we here at Market Drayton Infant and Nursery School pride ourselves on.

This last half term has been no different. We started the half term with a very energetic morning with GB Mountain Biker Danny Butler who talked to us about the importance of perseverance if we want to achieve our goals. We continued our energetic theme by having a Bougie Bounce session on mini-trampolines. This was amazing fun and required co-ordination as well as collaborating, great skills to apply to all tasks. Kate Long has been running 'Fun with Maths' sessions with parent's and children learning alongside each other. For World Book Day this year we were extremely lucky to have an author, Linda Whipp, come into school and inspire the children with her journey to becoming an author and championing how fantastic writing and story telling is. The children thoroughly enjoyed their workshops.

The half term culminated in an action packed morning of rocket science fun with children building and setting off air pressure fuelled rockets.

We are also looking forward to many exciting and informative trips and visits over the next term. Reception will be spotting geographical features on a bus trip around Market Drayton. They will also, linked to their topic 'Our World', enjoy a visit from 'Farm on Wheels' and 'Exotic Zoo'. KS1 will be visiting Stoke on Trent on a trip to Gladstone Pottery Museum. This trip will be a wonderful way for all our KS1 children to visit a factory reflecting on their history learning of the industrial revolution and linking to our current artist Clarice Cliff. They will be having a factory tour and taking part in a pottery workshop where the children will be completing a piece of pottery in the style of Clarice Cliff.





All the staff in our school are community champions. Every day we care for and support children and their families through changing situations. There is always someone available whenever the telephone rings to address any concerns, care for the bereaved or listen to a family in crisis. We pride ourselves on the level of patience and love we have for our families and endeavour to keep children in school whatever the challenges.

However, there are always those who go above and beyond within the communities in which they live in work. We have members of staff who are either current or past sports coaches and indeed our own Sally Brayne has pioneered football in her own home community and in our school for thirty years. She has developed the skills of hundreds of children and readily gives up evenings and weekends to train and attend matches. Holly Greaves has not only used her football coaching skills to benefit her team outside school but also puts them to good use when supporting children in need of some physical release.

Staff members have also worked within their communities within the Scout and Guide movement, giving up free time to enrich the lives of children beyond school. Without these skilled and dedicated people our youth would miss out on valuable learning experiences and personal development.

Tammy Claydon puts her skills to great use when building an annual float for the carnival and producing the displays in support of the Royal British Legion's poppy appeal and remembrance events. The artistic talents of Charlotte Wharton-Jenkins connect her to her communities both past and present. The performance expertise of Georgie Cartwright has entertained the local community through our school choir, who have sung at various community events and residential care homes. Theatre has always been a large part of the lives of staff members, local amateur dramatics groups, Grove School performances and shows put on at the Festival Drayton Centre have all been part of our community champions. Enriching the lives of our neighbourhoods through art and creativity generates a feeling of wellbeing and connection that lingers long after the event has taken place.

The life that our Mr B (Stephen Boughey) has led makes him a pioneer within his community. He is a beekeeper, musician, swimming instructor and lifeguard, to name just a few. His skills have grown through a variety of jobs, travel and an interest in the world around him. His ability to adapt and connect to the community in which he finds himself makes him an inspiration to us all.

Much of what goes on by our community champions is done behind the scenes and is given very little recognition aside from the personal feelings of joy and community spirit that accompany such endeavours. We would like everyone in our community to know that they are appreciated for all their hard work and for all of their life experiences that they bring to our school and the children and families that are forever enriched by their presence.



Shropshire

Primary Partnership

Aspiration • Collaboration • Knowledge

Initial Teacher Training (ITT)

Our Initial Teacher Training (ITT) program is designed to equip future educators with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to inspire young learners. In collaboration with the University of Chester, we offer a one-year Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) program. This course includes:

School-Based Learning: Trainees spend a minimum of two days per week in classrooms, gaining hands-on experience from the start

Comprehensive Curriculum: Covering subject knowledge, the Early Years and National Curriculum, and effective teaching strategies across all primary stages

Multiple Placements: Trainees experience teaching in different key stages, ensuring a well-rounded training experience

Shropshire Primary Partnership: Exciting Developments and New Opportunities

SEND: Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD): Aimed at educators, parents, and professionals, this course provides an understanding of SPD, its impact on children, and effective strategies for support and intervention

Our collaborations and delivery partners:



Click4Teaching

Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to engage with our community.

Together, we can empower every learner to reach their full potential!

Join us on this exciting journey of growth and excellence!



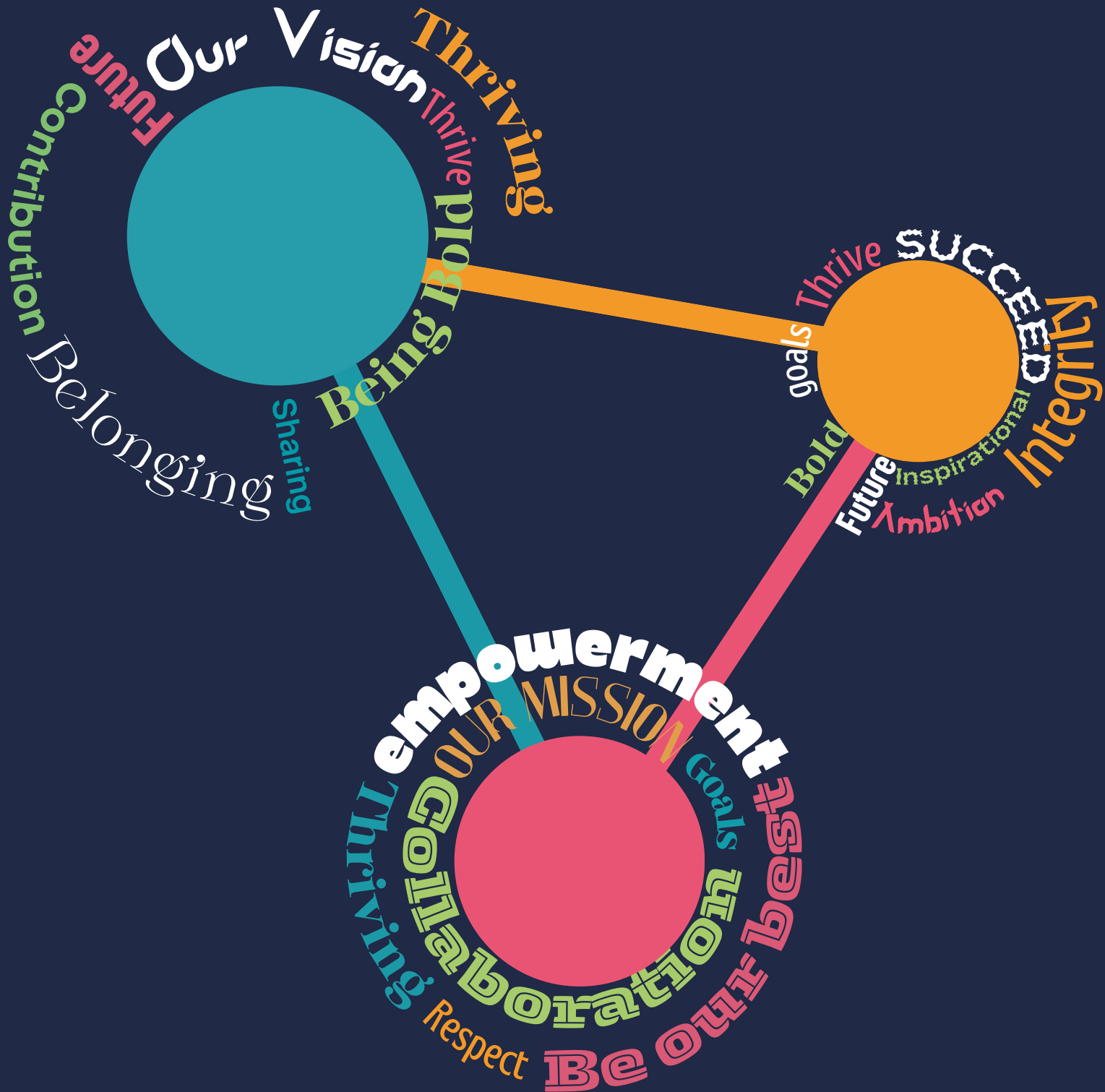
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Empower

Multi-Academy Trust

Inspire • Empower • Achieve



#authenticallyours

#choosetobekind

#togetherwehavegotthis