



The Blue Kite

Academy Trust

Blue Kite Multi Academy Trust's Educational Offer

Our aim is for Blue Kite Academy trust to bring a new energy and approach to providing the best education for our students. Through proven practices, Blue Kite will transform the learning of students, raise standards and provide the highest quality learning environments, enabling students and teaching staff to thrive and be the best. Our aim is to break down the barriers that limit educational progress.

At Blue Kite Academy, nothing is left to chance. The trust sees the responsibility for pupils' outcomes not as the duty of a few, but the responsibility of everyone. High-quality leadership of teaching and learning, including establishing systems to ensure that each child's needs are known and met precisely, will lead to rapid improvements in the quality of teaching across the schools and outstanding achievement. Children that are part of the Blue Kite Trust will learn to be thinkers, enquirers, communicators, open minded and reflective. They will be willing to challenge themselves by approaching unfamiliar situations, learning with courage and a having a growing sense of independence. All schools which become part of the Blue Kite Academy, will have a dynamic approach to teaching and learning, they will set creative questions for pupils to explore, they will engage the children's curiosity and nurture their imaginations allowing the children of Blue Kite Academy to become more fully involved and excited about their learning.

Blue Kite Academy brings fresh ideas, creative ways of working and an ethos that embraces challenge and change. Our team combines educational expertise with professional business management skills, enabling our schools to focus on what they do best- delivering outstanding education. We want schools joining our academy network to be proud to be part of our growing community and through wider collaboration and knowledge sharing, support each other to be outstanding.

The standards we set are very high, we aim to set the lead for others to follow: in curriculum, in teaching and learning, in staff development, in technology and environment and in school leadership and performance. We will help schools get there; working with them to plan their pathway and supporting them every step of the way.

Everyone - students, staff, parents and carers are at the heart of Blue Kite's vision. The investment in teaching and learning, school leadership improvement teams, continuing professional development and the adoption of personalised learning are core elements that will make the Blue Kite academies successful and enable them to achieve outstanding results.



Becoming part of the Blue Kite Academy means that the school retains its own Headteacher and leadership teams, held to account by an executive board and CEO, but at the same time being autonomous and not micro-managed. School governance will remain within the local governing body in each school, and they continue to hold the school to account and develop the school character. A partnership with Blue Kite Academy will provide the structure, capacity and capability to allow this to be a reality for primary schools. Our academy trust provides a ready base for professional collaboration and lateral accountability supported through effective governance and executive leadership.

Our Educational Aims and Objectives

Blue Kite Academy's guiding principles will be focused around 'acquire, develop, and flourish.'

Acquire

Our educational aims and objectives will provide the best education for every student. Recognising the individual needs of each student and supporting them to reach their own potential; praising and challenging; building confidence, self-worth and life skills; enabling them to achieve the highest standards. Ensure the highest quality teaching and learning. Blue Kite Academy schools' will work with the family, the parent or carer. To help each school identify and understand their child's needs, find the right learning pathway and to work with them to support their child's progress and achievement.

Develop

The Blue Kite Academy will support all its schools to develop the best teaching staff. Working together to retain and attract the best qualified or skilled staff; managing their performance; offering excellent coaching and mentoring, training and continuous professional development. We will provide the best learning environment and supporting technology. Developing inspirational buildings and facilities that are appropriate, well-managed, safe and secure; implementing the on-going use of innovative new technologies and ICT to support the delivery of a world-class education.



Flourish

Developing best practice and policy will allow our children, staff and schools to flourish. Working with leading national organisations, to develop learning strategies that continue to innovate educational delivery for the benefit of every child. Blue Kite Academy schools will have an ethos of continuous improvement; always seeking better and more precise ways of working and learning; striving at all times to be the best in all they do.

All this ensures schools within the Blue Kite Academy will have strong networks and a strong voice in their own future. This school improvement approach will help each school build a strong capacity to improve from within and a culture that looks outward and never stops trying to be better. Schools which join our Trust will be able to help shape the academies work and benefit from the support they receive and the opportunities for school improvement they are able to offer.

Curriculum Principles

Our curriculum is creative, inspiring and imaginative, designed to promote vision, reasoning and resilience. *'Schools' drive for conformity is at odds with the rapidly changing world, where being flexible, curious and creative are more important qualities than ever.'* Sir Ken Robinson

Aims

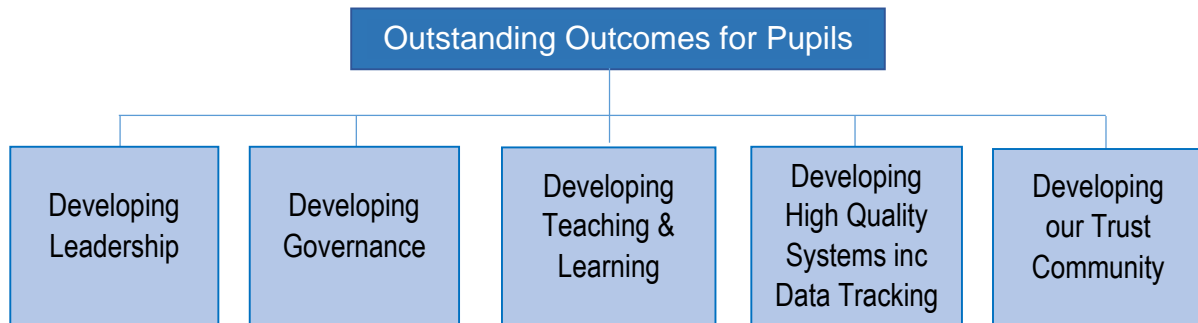
- That all pupils are provided with outstanding learning experiences that will ensure engagement, leading to comprehension, leading to mastery of key subjects
- All children will be taught by professionals who are skilled, adept and enthusiastic about teaching and learning and are committed to transmitting that enthusiasm to another generation
- That a shared high expectation of behaviour and of adherence to our shared values are the corner stone of a successful learning environment
- That our teaching of the curriculum will impart skills through inspiring lessons that become lifelong memories.



Like all schools within the Blue Kite Trust, any new school joining will build to have a dynamic approach to teaching and learning, it will set creative questions for pupils to explore, it will engage their curiosity and nurture their imaginations allowing the children of their school to become more fully involved and excited about learning.

Blue Kite Academy schools' will achieve educational inclusion by continually reviewing what they do, both as a school and within the trust, through asking key questions which are already in place at the Blue Kite Trust: Do all our children achieve as much as they can? Are there differences in the achievement of different groups of children? What are we doing for those children who we know are not achieving their best? Are our actions effective? Are we successful

in promoting racial harmony in preparing pupils to live in a diverse society? Do we provide every opportunity for all our pupils to have a participatory role in every aspect of their school life?



Supporting Joining Schools

Leadership in Blue Kite Academy schools will be driven by a moral purpose ensuring that all our students reach their potential both academically and socially within a humanising school ethos. Such leadership will have a total and persistent focus on high quality teaching, an imaginative and progressive curriculum and developmental performance management. Leadership will be shared within and across schools, have a strong development focus through the use of school improvement teams and be supported by the Blue Kite Academy leadership team

The Blue Kite Academy whole-school design will deliver the following outcomes for our students through providing a vibrant and enriching educational experience for all students:

- Support all children at primary stage, regardless of initial entry levels, to achieve at least national expectations
- Ensure all primary schools exceed floor targets and are secure above national standard
- Ensure all of our academies are working towards an Ofsted rating of 'outstanding' within a rigorous improvement plan.

Educational Support

Blue Kite Academy's educational offer ensures all necessary provision, materials and guidance to ensure rapid and sustained improvement. It provides intensive support for schools requiring urgent and rigorous action but also offers significant opportunities for high performing schools and senior leadership teams – particularly those wishing to maintain on-going continuous progress, play a wider role in school improvement and have greater influence on the development of education policy and practice.

Management Support

Being part of the Blue Kite Academy community means that schools are entitled to, and have access to, a range of school management and administrative support services. These services are managed centrally to enable our academies to focus on delivering the very best education for their students and their communities. This also ensures consistent quality of service provision, provides operational efficiencies and cost savings, and ensures best value

For schools that are in an Ofsted Category of Special Measures or Serious Weaknesses:

We would provide immediate and significant intervention to ensure that these schools make rapid and sustained progress.

A risk assessment will be carried out by our improvement team and an Improvement Plan will be created linking directly to the school needs and the Ofsted report if the school has already been inspected.

In our experience schools that are placed in a category often have issues which extend into the administration and premises areas as well and as such our Trust Business manager as well as Facilities Manager form part of the improvement team and contribute to the risk assessment and Improvement Plan.

A school requires special measures if:

- it is failing to give its pupils an acceptable standard of education
and
- the persons responsible for leading, managing or governing are not demonstrating the capacity to secure the necessary improvement in the school.¹

Our aim is to produce a confident and competent leadership and school improvement team able to make significant and rapid improvement. The ongoing analysis of student data for these schools will show evidence of progress in all year groups and across the distribution. The school will then be in a position to travel along the Blue Kite improvement pathway.

For Schools on the Journey to Good

We will provide a higher level of support for these schools to ensure they accelerate progress through achieving more precision in teaching and learning and monitoring student achievement across the performance range. Blue Kite's support in these school will again ensure both rapid and sustainable progress. This will be achieved through working with the school leadership and improvement teams in accelerating progress through more precision in teaching and monitoring.

This approach aims to produce a confident and competent leadership and school improvement team that is able to deliver precise teaching at a good standard and above on a reliable basis. Quantitative school, class and pupil data will show good progress.

For 'Good to Outstanding' Schools

These schools will by definition require much less support. They will however, require some additional challenge in order to become 'outstanding' and to engage in networking with other Blue Kite Academy schools.

This will be achieved through working with the school leadership and improvement teams in deepening the enquiry focus throughout the school, increasing confidence in use of data and

¹ As set out under section 44 of the Education Act 2005.

supporting forms of professional development to ensure that all teachers are working towards being 'outstanding'.

For 'Outstanding' Schools

These schools will automatically become Blue Kite Academy Support Schools. They will however still need some monitoring and support to fulfil their own support role.

This will be achieved through working with these schools' leadership and improvement teams supporting the implementation of the school improvement strategy. This will result in schools that are sustaining and deepening their outstanding status and providing support across the Blue Kite Academy.



Blue Kite Academy's School 'Improvement Pathway'

To realise our vision we will employ a phased approach to school improvement. Whether the starting point is 'requires improvement' or otherwise, the intention is that all Blue Kite Academy schools will be on an improvement journey that leads to excellence as shown below. The milestones in the diagram are illustrative of the progress that will be made.

	Audit	Essential	Transforming	Outstanding
		On the journey to good	For good to outstanding schools	For outstanding schools
Leadership	Confirmation of starting point	Distributed leadership capacity	Distributed leadership	System leadership
Learning		Focus on basics	Learning skills/protocols	Independent learning
Curriculum		Literacy and numeracy basics	Literacy, numeracy and breadth across the curriculum	Cross-curricular enquiry projects
Teaching		Consistent	Theories of actions and peer observations	Opportunities to develop through coaching and mentoring
Community		Parental engagement	Enhanced technology	Community engagement
Accountability		Establish systems for self-evaluation	Monitoring progress and assessment for learning	Pupils set own targets and peer assessment

A Blue Kite Academy school will be part of the community they serve, developing aspirational individuals amongst both pupils and staff. Achieving and developing talent is at the heart of all we do.

According to Ofsted*, 21st century schools succeed for the following reasons:

- They excel at what they do not just occasionally, but for a high proportion of the time
- They prove constantly that disadvantage need not be a barrier to achievement
- They put their students first, invest in their staff and nurture their communities
- They have strong values and high expectations that are applied consistently and are never relaxed
- They fulfil individual potential through providing outstanding teaching, rich opportunities for learning and encouragement and support for each student
- They are highly inclusive, having complete regard for the educational progress, personal development and well-being of every student
- Their achievements do not happen by chance, but by highly reflective, carefully planned and implemented strategies
- They operate with a very high degree of internal consistency
- They are constantly looking for ways to improve further
- They have outstanding and well-distributed leadership

This is how Blue Kite Academy schools will succeed too!

*Taken from Ofsted report 'Twelve outstanding secondary schools – excelling against the odds' 2009.



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