

Chief Executive Officer –Permanent Appointment

Rachel Shaw has been appointed by Directors of the Trust as the permanent CEO for Exeter Learning Academy Trust. She will take up her post in September 2019.

My name is Rachel Shaw and I am delighted to have been appointed as the CEO of the Trust from September. I am really looking forward to getting to know all your children and their schools and having the opportunity to build on the excellent work already achieved by Mr Stone.

I know it is important to know something about the person who will have an impact on your children so I have provided you with a little information below, but I do plan to try and meet as many of you as I can in September. I have spent 25 years working in education, firstly as a primary teacher and then moving into senior leadership roles where I have been the Primary Headteacher of schools in Dawlish, Ashburton and Ilsington eventually moving into a role as the executive Headteacher of 5 primary schools. Currently, I am the CEO of South Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust where the organisation has needed support to stabilise and move forward and I have been helping them to do that. I am now every excited about having the opportunity to move into a new community working in my favourite city that I have enjoyed since I was a young child.



My own primary and secondary education all took place in Newton Abbot so I am a product of the Devon education system and it served me well. However, I know this is not always the case for all our children and this drives me to ensure that all our schools give our children the same opportunities I was fortunate to have. I want any child attending one of our schools to be happy, responsible and be given the best chance they can to succeed because they are taught by skilled, motivated and dedicated adults. I want our parents and children to feel proud of their schools and for school leaders to be relentless in ensuring that we never let a child down.

But without a doubt, the best thing about my job are the children and I love spending time with them. They are unpredictable, perceptive, honest, funny and caring and never cease to amaze me with their capacity to embrace new ideas and surprise us. We only have a few short years which, in partnership with parents, we can help children grow and develop into adults free from prejudice and be educationally ready to embrace the world around them. We need to make every minute count for our children.

So, what do I do when I'm not thinking about our schools and their children? Well, I have a lovely husband and two children (12 and 15) and most days we all get along well! I really enjoy spending time with them and our very close extended family and this is really important to me. I enjoy any time I can spend outdoors, love a good old binge on a box set, enjoy playing the piano and all things musical and can easily lose myself for a few hours in a good book. I am prepared to give most things a try and have been known to abseil down the odd Church Spire if raises a few extra pennies for the school.

As I have already said, I will endeavour to get to get to know you all in the Autumn but in the meantime, I hope you all have an exciting end to the Summer Term and enjoy your sports day (weather permitting). Have a peaceful summer break and I look forward to meeting you all in September.

Ide Primary School

Congratulations to Ide Primary School for gaining the School Games Gold Award for sport.

Ide has been awarded the School Games Gold Mark Award, in recognition of commitment to competition among pupils.

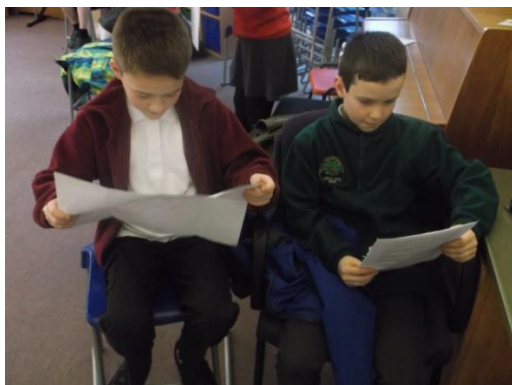
The School is 'delighted' with the government-led award, which asked that it fulfil criteria in participation, competition, workforce and clubs.

Thank you to Miss Downing for all her hard work



Academy Ambassadors

The Academy Ambassadors have met several times during the year and are currently in the process of producing a school newspaper. The Ambassadors were involved in the appointment of the CEO and were very responsive to questions posed by the candidates. They were expected to grade the candidates and provide written and verbal feedback to Mrs Thornhill. (Bowhill Deputy). The Ambassadors have also judged a writing competition. Mrs Shaw is very keen to further develop the role of the Ambassadors within the Trust.



Academy Sport's Day

West-Exe School will be hosting our annual Year 4 and 5 sport's day on Tuesday July 9th. Parents are welcome to watch. It is a fantastic event-highly competitive and great fun.

Schools will provide further details nearer the time.

SATS Year 6 May 13-16th

The children in Year 6 have been sitting their end of year SATs. As a Trust, we are very proud of the hard work and effort the children have put in. The children were calm and relaxed all week, taking it all in their stride. As a MAT we recognise the importance of SATS and all of our Year 6 teachers work extremely hard to prepare our children.

However this not at the expense of the wider curriculum. In order to prepare our children for the next steps in their education it is vital they have access to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Residential Trips



All four of the schools take children away at different time of the year. Residentials offer children a unique experience for children, participating in a wide range of activities and experiences with their peers. A residential learning experience provides opportunities and benefits/impacts that cannot be achieved in any other educational context or setting.

St Thomas visited Grenville House in Brixham earlier in the year.

Alphington went to Great Potheridge in North Devon.

Ide went to Cardiff and Bowhill are shortly to spend four days in London.



All schools offer Year 6 a yearly trip, but there are other shorter trips in different year groups which prepare children for longer trips away. These include camping, sleep-overs in school or a local trip. Although these trips are enjoyable for adults, it is never less than exhausting looking after a large group of children with tireless energy and boundless enthusiasm, tinged with the occasional bit of homesickness. However the joy in watching children grow and succeed together away from the classroom is wonderful and a memorable experience for all, compensating for everything.

Teachers' Professional Development- Debbie Buckingham

Part of my role as Director of Teaching and Learning is to facilitate opportunities for teachers across the MAT to share good practice and learn from each other. Subject leaders meet regularly to discuss the use of resources, teaching strategies and often visit the schools within the MAT.

Every term we try to ensure teachers get together to review a subject or benchmark standards particularly in writing. Moderating Writing is designed to help schools to make consistent judgements about pupils' attainment. Sometimes we use external advisors to strengthen our expertise or speakers. In June all staff are getting together for a joint session on teaching vocabulary. The use of Technology is instrumental for staff to share ideas and resources. As a Trust we have created 'Teams' which is an on-line facility for all staff to communicate across the MAT.





Summer Fetes: This is always a highlight of the school year as school communities come together and raise money for their school.

St Thomas; Friday 14th June 3.20pm

Bowhill; Friday 14th June 5.00pm

Alphington Friday 5th July 6.00pm

Ide; Friday 12th July 3.00pm

Summer Activities

Golden Carrot Hunt

13th May-11th July 2019

Time: 9am - 5pm

Venue: The Donkey Sanctuary

Address: Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU

Celebrating 50 years, follow the clues around the sanctuary to uncover the hidden treasure and claim your gold reward - just £3 per treasure hunt including prize and certificate on completion.

Exeter Festival

5th-7th July 2019 Venue: Various Venues : A new and exciting three day fun-filled, summer extravaganza with bucket loads of family friendly activities. Dance the night away with the Hoosiers on Saturday 6 and join the free family day on Sunday...

Planet Earth Games

6th July 2019

Venue: Exwick Sports Hub and Flowerpot Playing Fields

Address: Exeter EX4 1DH

There will be free activities for all the family from 9am. With sports tournaments, a Plogathon, paddle boarding, raft building and canoeing with Haven Banks, street sports with Boarding House, trail walking...

Newton Abbot Carnival

8th-14th July 2019

Venue: Various locations

Address: Newton Abbot, TQ12 1LG

All the carnival celebrations will run over the week. Fun activities include children's fun games, a carnival procession and fairground.

