

# ANNUAL REPORT TO STAKEHOLDERS: 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR



The Societas Trust values all our children, staff, governors and the wider communities we serve across Stoke-on-Trent and North Staffordshire.

We are still a relatively young organisation, formed in 2015 and incorporated in February 2016.

Since then, we have grown steadily in size and reputation; all sharing a belief that the needs of children are best met when schools collaborate and cooperate, sharing expertise, knowledge and resources whilst maintaining close links with the communities they serve.

Our Settings:  
ALSAGERS BANK PRIMARY

ASH GREEN PRIMARY

BURNWOOD PRIMARY\*

CARMOUNTSIDE PRIMARY

ELLISON PRIMARY

GLADSTONE PRIMARY

GOLDENHILL PRIMARY

OAKLANDS NURSERY\*

SUMMERBANK PRIMARY

(\* Associate Member)



With approx. 2,950 children and 500 staff.



## Our Priorities

- Our understanding of great teaching and learning (Pedagogy) underpins and supports the curriculum; and, each setting provides a rich, inspiring, and highly stimulating curriculum that fully meets the needs of all pupils and leaves them with highly memorable and influential experiences.
- Teaching and learning practices across the Trust promote resilience, support social and emotional learning, cultivate a love of learning among the whole school community, and contribute to overcoming some of the barriers cemented into the broader community.
- Business systems continue to mature, support and sustain the ambition and drive of the Trust and its settings to secure our wider aims over time.



# Collaborative Events



## Shakespeare Festival:

Once again, the Societas Shakespeare Festival has been an amazing success - the play "T'will Be A Storm", based on King Leah, was adapted and performed by children from across the Trust at the New Vic Theatre, working with a professional drama group.



# RUGS

The RUGS is the name for our MAT Student Council. It stands for 'Really Useful Generation Students' Group and they are also ambassadors for our Trust.

Its membership consists of four children from each setting.

## What opportunities have our RUGS had?

Engagement in a Teambuilding exercise at Standon Bowers



To help plan and be 'roving reporters' for all Trust collaborative activities for pupils

**Goldenhill Gazette**

**Societas Trust Schools Enjoy Action-Packed Day at Trentham Gardens**

On a sunny Wednesday 20th April, 1000 pupils from 1000 schools embarked on an amazing day at the renowned Trentham Gardens in Staffs. The day was packed with outdoor activities and adventures. It was divided into groups with leading 'roving reporters' to report on the day's activities.

The day was a success and all children enjoyed the day. The 'roving reporters' were given a special badge to wear and were encouraged to report on the day's activities. The day was a success and all children enjoyed the day.

**ABPA News**

**Crazy fun at Trentham Gardens!**

The children had a fantastic day at Trentham Gardens. They enjoyed the outdoor activities and the 'roving reporters' were given a special badge to wear. The day was a success and all children enjoyed the day.

**ASH GREEN DAILY NEWS**

**YEAR 4 ATTEND EXCLUSIVE EVENT!**

The children had a fantastic day at Trentham Gardens. They enjoyed the outdoor activities and the 'roving reporters' were given a special badge to wear. The day was a success and all children enjoyed the day.

**Burnwood Bulletin**

**SUCCESSFUL DAY AT TRENTHAM GARDENS!**

The children had a fantastic day at Trentham Gardens. They enjoyed the outdoor activities and the 'roving reporters' were given a special badge to wear. The day was a success and all children enjoyed the day.

**THE SOCIETAS NEWS**

**BAREFOOT LIKE A BEAVER**

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**ELLISON POST**

**TERRIFIC TRENTHAM TRIP!**

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**The Gladstone Post**

**BREAKING NEWS! THE TERRIFIC TRENTHAM GARDENS TRIP!**

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**The Daily News**

**SOCIETAS TRUST HAVE A SUPER DAY OUT!**

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# Collaborative Events



## Societas Goes To Paris - 21st June

An unforgettable day of collaboration as Key Stage 2 children from all Societas Trust schools came together in a 'virtual' Paris at Soke City F.C.'s Training Dome. Through a variety of Olympic-style activities, pupils fostered teamwork, friendship, and a spirit of healthy competition, showcasing the strength of unity across our Trust community - the theme was 'being inspiring'!

After the hard work put in by the teachers and the students the children had lots of fun and they really enjoyed themselves.



# Philosophy for Children



All of our settings deliver Philosophy for Children (P4C). This is where a group of people (or Community of Enquiry) are wondering and thinking together about questions and ideas that seem important to them. This ensures that pupils develop their understanding of the world, of each other and of themselves; encourages them to be critical thinkers; and, caring, collaborative, compassionate individuals.

## Recognising our Achievements



Silver P4C Awards:

Ash Green Primary Academy  
Ellison Primary Academy  
Goldenhill Primary Academy  
Oaklands Nursery  
Summerbank Primary Academy



Bronze P4C Awards:

Gladstone Primary Academy  
Alsagers Bank Primary Academy



# Congratulations

Congratulations to the settings that were inspected by Ofsted this year. The Ofsted Inspectors' reports highlight the growing strength and success of our settings.

Well done to:

Goldenhill Primary Academy (October 2023)  
Summerbank Primary Academy (November 2023)

# Collaborative Events



## Trust Activity Days

On the 24th April & 13th June 2024 children from Year 4 and Year 2 across the Trust went to Trentham Gardens.

As part of the Trust's collaborative initiatives, pupils from across The Societas Trust enjoyed a day of enrichment activities at Trentham Gardens. They engaged in Disc Golf, explored the Barefoot Walk, and made use of the Play Area. An inspirational speaker also motivated the pupils, while the Beaver Trail added a sense of adventure. Each activity contributed to an exciting and memorable experience, fostering both enjoyment and collaboration among pupils.



# 'Thank You' to our dedicated staff and governors



APPRECIATE  
you

We award those who have achieved 25 years' continuous public service each year.

This year we have twelve staff who have achieved this amazing milestone. Each will receive a voucher for £150 and a day off work.

As a valued member of staff or governor at The Societas Trust, not only will you be part of an organisation that is dedicated to ensuring 'Great Learning Opportunities for All', which is embedded in our core values of Moral Leadership, Collaboration, Uniqueness and Innovation, you will also have access to a wide range of employee and governor benefits enabling you to thrive. These include::

- Physiotherapy
- Counselling
- Mindfulness Support and 'Mastering Mindfulness' courses
- Weight Management
- Nurse Support
- Integrated GP Services
- Cancer and Chronic Illness Support
- Menopause Support
- Private Medical Operations
- Financial Wellbeing Support
- SAS 'virtual' Gym
- Food Sensitivity Testing
- Salary Sacrifice Schemes - Childcare Vouchers and Cycle to Work
- Discounted Gym Memberships
- Staff Workshops, including Health Screening and Stress/Mindfulness Workshops
- A Wide Range of Continuing Professional Development and Career Progression Opportunities



Please note that terms and conditions apply to some Employee benefits

# We have developed and launched our new website



Our website contains lots of important and useful information about the Trust and all of its settings. To visit our website please go to:  
<https://www.societatrust.org.uk/>



# This year, we have also:



Provided all our settings with staff training, enrichment opportunities for children and other collaborative projects;

Secured additional funds (circa £2.2 million) since 2019, from the Government, to support significant improvements to school buildings and perimeter security at most of our settings;

Benefited from further significant savings through joint procurement projects;

Provided a wide range of training and coaching to our leaders and governors, including access to the National College Training Hub and School Bus;

Completed safeguarding and financial audits with flying colours - well done to our Central Team, Headteachers, Business Managers and staff!

Provided a Wellbeing Day and other employee benefits for all staff across the Trust;

Provided network and mentor support for Early Career Teachers, Subject Leaders, Academy Business Managers, Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers new to the Trust;

Moderated and quality assured provision across the Trust using internal and external support including for children with SEND;

Engaged with other Multi-Academy Trust networks locally and nationally to support our self-review and evaluation processes, and staff professional development.

We hope this report is useful in helping you to get to know more about the exciting things we are doing for our children, staff, governors and wider communities.

If you would like to find out more please visit <https://www.societastrust.org.uk/>

Mr. Jon Lovatt (CEO, The Societas Trust)



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