

Connect Alliance Trust

Excellence - Collaboration - Respect

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WELCOME

MESSAGE

Welcome to the Connect Alliance Trust. Set in the heart of Manchester, we are a proposed partnership of schools dedicated to providing the best opportunities for children and families within the context of their local community.

We recognise and respect that every child, school and community are individual and keep this in mind in all we do. Working together and building on the existing skills and expertise in place we aim to create stronger working practices that deliver educational excellence.

Whether it's winning a cross country championship or helping to shape a child's ambition to be an astronaut, we encourage every child to have the confidence to be themselves and reach their potential. We achieve this by meeting the holistic needs of children, which includes safety, health and education. This involves working in partnership with a range of specialist practitioners, be that an expert in child psychology or a maths local leader in education. Collaboratively, we do whatever it takes to deliver excellence.



Elizabeth Hardy
Chief Executive Officer

Every school within the Connect Alliance Trust is assured of mutual respect and investment in professional development. We are committed to creating a learning community where everyone involved is inspired to continually challenge themselves to develop new skills and knowledge for life.

We welcome your feedback about our proposals to join together via the consultation questionnaire and also look forward to meeting with you at our consultation events at each school in March 2025.

VISION

We are committed to empowering every child and adult in our Trust to cultivate their talents, realise their achievements, and reach their personal best. Our vision is to foster a love for learning that leads to success in life, equipping individuals with the knowledge, skills, and understanding needed to live happy and successful lives. We believe in education's transformational power and aim to create a safe, inclusive and thriving environment.

MISSION

To deliver an exceptional and transformative educational experience that motivates all our learners to reach their personal best and contribute positively to society. We are dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive and thriving environment that promotes respect, integrity and lifelong learning for all, regardless of background. Through a commitment to academic excellence, creativity, well-being and leadership, we inspire our pupils and staff to grow, lead and make a meaningful impact in their communities.

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OUR VALUES

Academic Excellence

Every child, regardless of background or individual needs, should have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Empowering learning

We cultivate personal and social skills, supporting children as self-managers, resourceful thinkers, independent enquirers, team players, reflective learners and effective participants.

Respect and Inclusivity

Aligned with a Rights-Respecting curriculum, we uphold the values of respect, dignity, honesty, and non-discrimination. We embrace all faiths and non-faith perspectives, with a commitment to serving our communities.

Physical and Mental Well-being

By promoting mental and physical health, we encourage habits that support lifetime wellness. Our curriculum prioritises mental resilience, happiness and a positive mind-set.

Creativity and the Arts

We support self-awareness, imagination, and emotional development through creativity and the arts, encouraging pupils to engage with and express complex emotions.

Empowering learning

Our pupils are taught to appreciate their roles within a global context, fostering an awareness of their potential positive impact. Sustainability and community service are central to our values.

OUR GOALS

Develop Good Citizens

We nurture responsible, aware individuals who respect others and are dedicated to contributing positively to society.

Ignite Learning and Promote Excellent Teaching

We commit to providing a rich, engaging curriculum that allows all learners to thrive and achieve strong progress regardless of background.

Grow Exceptional Leaders

Through strategic leadership development, we aim to cultivate strong leaders at all levels within our Trust.

Focus on Performance and Development

We strive for excellence in professional learning, inspiring continuous improvement and growth.

Provide Public Value

By growing a collaborative network of schools, we raise aspirations, inspire excellence and create more opportunities for pupils and staff.

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BENEFITS OF JOINING TOGETHER

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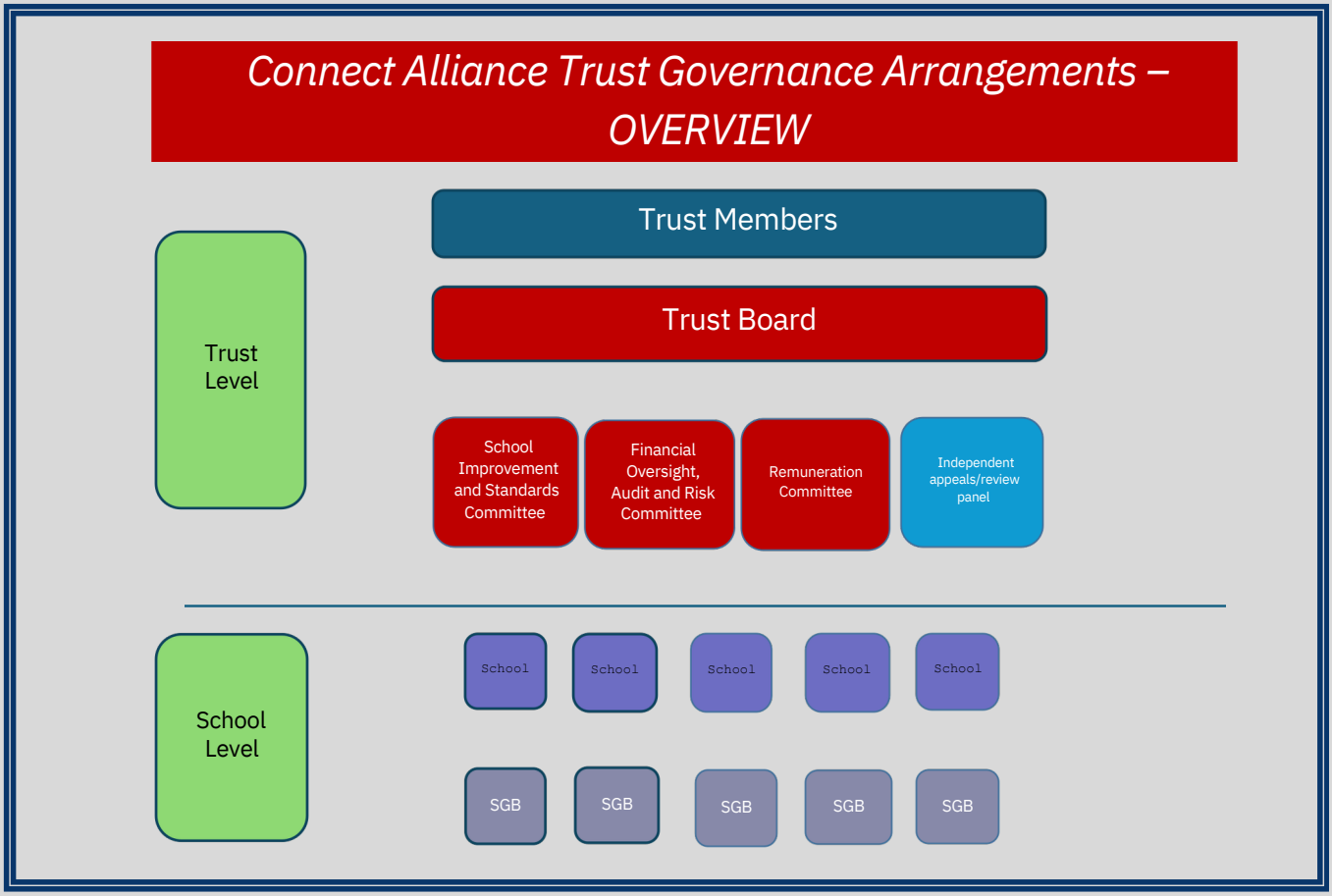
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The Connect Alliance Trust is a combination of strong, value-driven academy trusts and schools. In joining together to become a stronger family of schools, we share a common purpose and motivation centred around a culture of collaboration. We strive for excellence on behalf of children in Manchester.

Our schools have collaborated successfully previously and recognise the following benefits of joining together:

- Reinforcing vision while extending the reach and influence of our values and ethos including the unique characteristics of our schools.
- Strengthening collaborative leadership, recruiting and keeping the best staff through better professional development and career opportunities.
- Greater specialist knowledge across all areas of our provision which will enable continuous high-quality, ambitious and inclusive education that is broad and enriched.
- Building a strong, sustainable, successful future by working together with a common purpose. Through coming together we become a stronger partner with greater strategic influence.
- Greater financial stability and efficiencies which will enable better resources across the trust schools. This will improve sustainability across areas of the schools, including better buildings, facilities, resources, staffing and opportunities.
- Access to DfE grants and funding that are only available for academy schools.

GOVERNANCE



Key Features:

- Members are custodians of the MAT and have a hands-off management role in the Trust. They have oversight of governance, ie. through approval of changes to the Articles of Association, appointment of Trustees, meeting annually to examine development, direction and financial position.
- Trustees have ultimate responsibility for the running of the Trust. They review its vision & strategic direction and hold executives to account for the performance of the MAT and its Schools and oversee effective financial performance. Trustees have ultimate responsibility for all management decisions within MAT Schools, in line with powers they have delegated to Schools.
- The MAT will operate three core committees of the Board, scrutinising school improvement and standards, finance, resources, risk and audit matters and remuneration.
- A School Governing Board (SGB) will operate for each School and provide focused governance for the School at a local level on behalf of the Trust Board and in accordance with policies determined by the Trust Board.

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OUR MEMBERS

Lord Keith Bradley

Offers wide-ranging skills and experience of public life, particularly in government and committee work.

Previously served as Member and Chair of Trustees for Link Learning Trust, demonstrating experience in educational governance.

David Allan K.C.

Brings extensive legal expertise from a 40-year career as a barrister and judge, aiding in understanding complex legislation.

Currently serves as a Trustee and Chair of the M20 Learning Trust Board, navigating challenges including the pandemic, demonstrating strong leadership.

Fayaz Hammond

A full-time District Judge with experience in legal and management roles, contributing skills in all areas of Trust leadership.

Has a background as a barrister and tribunal judge, with experience in training and recruitment**.**

Kim Doyle

Specialises in safeguarding, with expertise in child protection and sexual violence, offering valuable challenge and guidance.

Director of Lime Culture, a leading sexual violence training organisation, and has extensive experience in multi-agency settings.

Andy Park

Executive Headteacher with experience in school leadership, finance, and change management, valuable for Trust growth.

An established member of Manchester's Funding Forum and a legacy National Leader of Education, providing expertise in school governance.

OUR TRUSTEES

Dr Adrian Young
Business owner and Chartered Tax Adviser at HURST Accountants Ltd, bringing financial leadership. Expertise in team leadership and financial analysis, with experience as a Trust Board member and Chair.

Suzanna Ingham
Chartered Accountant and Tax Director at Saffery LLP, skilled in stakeholder and project management. Strong financial acumen, leading a team of 20 to deliver client advice and financial analysis**.**

Darren Hughes
Solicitor and Partner at Gateley Legal, specialising in commercial real estate and legal compliance. Experienced in health and safety oversight and legal document interpretation, also chairing a scout group.

Dr Teresa Regan
Founder Director of Catalyst Psychology CIC, an Educational Psychologist with extensive experience. Expertise in managing psychological services and staff, with a background in local government leadership.

David Allan K.C.
Barrister and retired Judge, with a strong background in legal analysis and interpretation. Legal expert to the TN Asbestos Trust, bringing decades of judicial and legal experience.

David Cundy
IT professional specializing in automation and security, with over 25 years of industry experience. Expertise in IT system standardisation, security and risk management, with experience in business governance.

Karen Walkden
Retired HR professional with 42 years of experience in various HR functions and leadership roles. Expertise in HR, leadership and business, gained from executive-level positions in the nuclear industry.

Kate Dean
Self-employed Education Consultant, with a background as a teacher, lecturer, and school improvement leader. Expertise in school improvement, strategy and Ofsted inspections, bringing a wealth of educational knowledge.

David Kennedy-Pitt
Senior Vice President at BNY, with global leadership experience in resilience and risk management. Expertise in strategic advisory, leadership and program management, with experience in charity and school governance.

Dr. Gunjit Bandesha
Director of Healthcare Public Health NHS England North West, with extensive experience in public health and local government. Expertise in governance and leadership, with prior experience as a Director of Public Health and Children's Services.

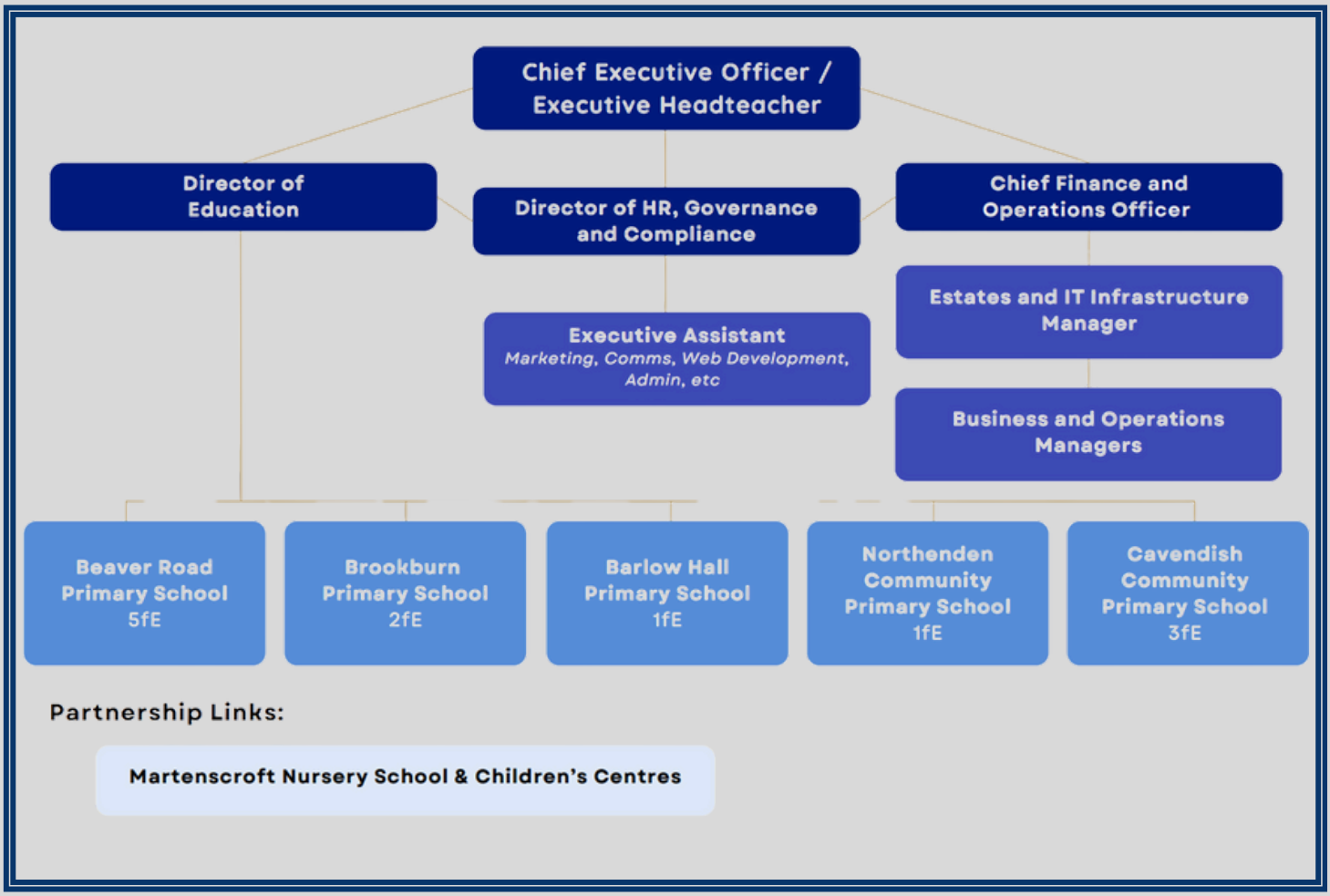
Ian Williamson
Former NHS Manchester Chief Executive, with significant experience in NHS strategy and finance. Holds multiple trustee positions, bringing vast experience in strategic and organisational change.

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LEADERSHIP MODEL



OUR SCHOOLS

Barlow Hall Primary School

Located in Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, is a nurturing school for children aged 2 to 11, holding an Ofsted 'Good' rating with outstanding leadership. The school emphasises academic excellence, personal growth and good citizenship, effectively supporting pupils with diverse needs. It promotes core values like respect, physical well-being and global citizenship.

Beaver Road Primary School

A vibrant five-form entry school in Didsbury, which has achieved an Ofsted 'Outstanding' rating across all areas. It prioritises nurturing and inspiring pupils, holding Gold Rights Respecting status to foster a supportive environment. The school's dedicated team offers a comprehensive curriculum, emphasising collaboration and strong community relationships.

Brookburn Community School

Located in Chorlton-Cum-Hardy, is a nurturing primary school for children aged 3 to 11, with an Ofsted 'Good' rating. Its curriculum emphasises academic excellence, respect and holistic development, including physical and mental well-being. The school has a strong track record of academic achievement within a supportive learning environment.

Cavendish Community Primary School

Located in West Didsbury, serving children aged 3 to 11, aims to develop 'Brilliant Citizens' through its comprehensive curriculum. As a UNICEF Rights Respecting School, it values children's rights and fosters a nurturing, inclusive environment. The school also enriches pupils' experiences with extracurricular activities.

Martenscroft Nursery School and Children's Centres

Located in Manchester, provides a nurturing and inclusive environment for young children, focusing on early development and learning. The school emphasises play-based education, fostering creativity and social skills, while supporting children's individual needs. It promotes foundational values such as kindness, curiosity and a love of learning.

Northenden Community Primary School

Serving its community in Northenden since 1910, offers a broad curriculum and extracurricular activities for children aged 3 to 11. As a community school, it is dedicated to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes determination, equality and ambition for all pupils.

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LOCATIONS

Martenscroft Nursery School and Children's Centres

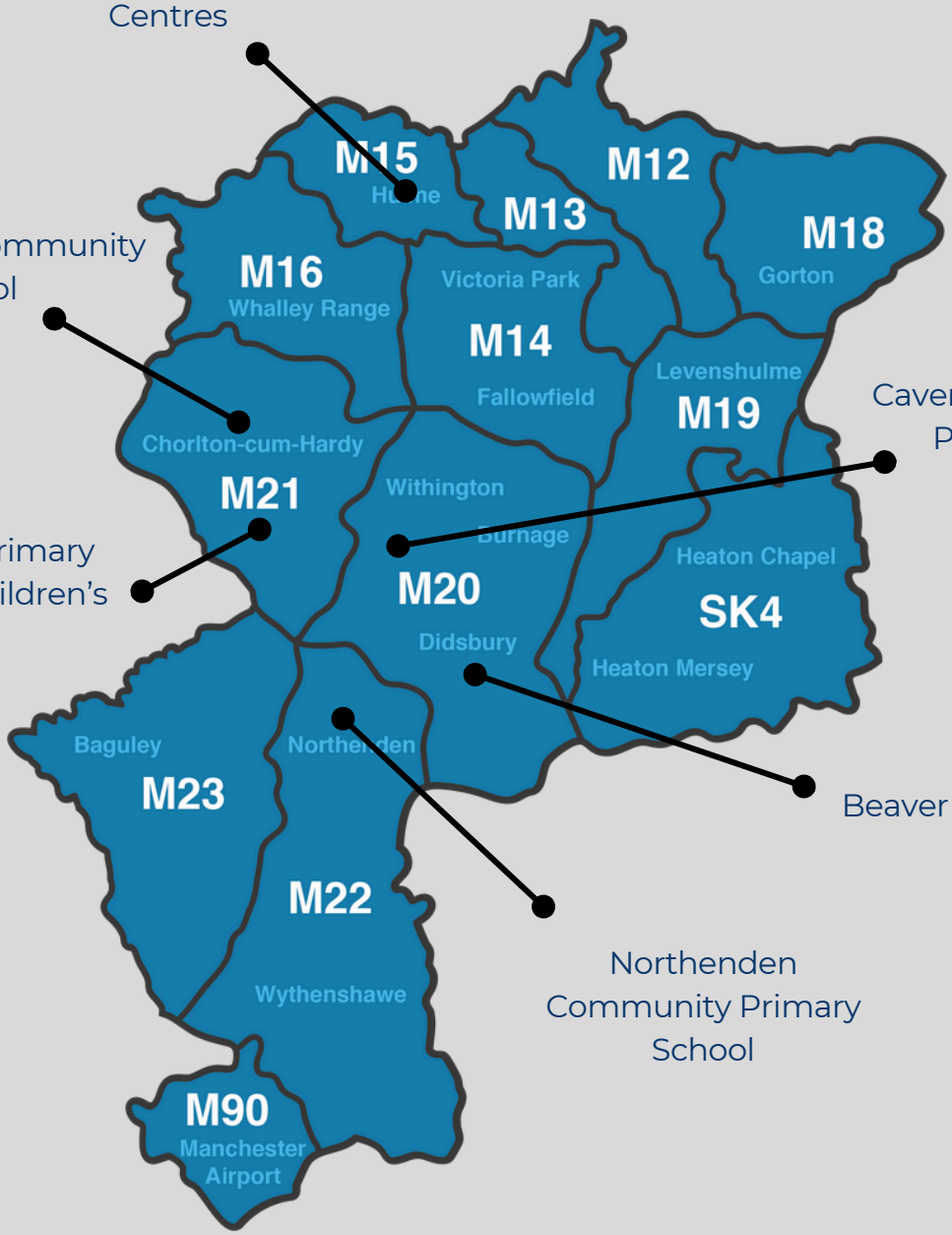
Brookburn Community School

Barlow Hall Primary School and Children's Centre

Cavendish Community Primary School

Beaver Road Primary School

Northenden Community Primary School



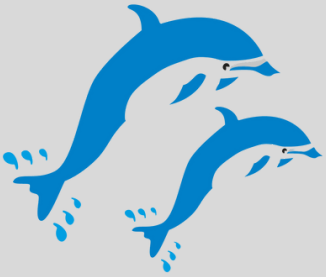
FIND OUT MORE...



Cavendish Community Primary School



Martenscroft Nursery School and Children's Centres



Brookburn Community School



Northenden Community Primary School



Barlow Hall Primary School and Children's Centre



Beaver Road Primary School

M20 Learning Trust

LINK Learning Trust

We welcome your views on the amalgamation of the Schools and Trusts.

Please click on this link to fill in our consultation questionnaire

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