

# CEO Briefing



Here we are, with either a week (Doncaster and Notts) or two weeks (Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield) remaining of autumn half term 1. I was going to start this briefing by saying “welcome back”, but I think it’s better to instead say “have a great break” when it arrives. As many of you already know, our little Trust family grew on the 1 September with the opening of Discovery Academy, the transfers of Beech and Fountaindale, and our newly opened West Riding campus in Barnsley. I feel so fortunate that we have such wonderful staff and amazing pupils now part of our Trust community. Our Trust will be growing further still this year, though I’ll share more details of this in future briefings (!).

With growth comes the need to increase capacity, and I’m delighted to welcome a new Deputy Chief Finance Officer (Ann D’Arcy), our two new Executive Leads for Primary & School Improvement (Darren Dickinson and Claire Garbutt) and our two new Executive Regional Directors (Sacha Schofield and Paula Williams). All of our new central Trust staff are supporting the essential business of Nexus MAT and working with our Headteachers to help our schools, as we all work hard to be the best that we can be.

Whilst saying hello to our new starters, I also have the responsibility to share some really sad goodbyes, as 3 of our beloved pupils have passed away since we returned in September.

Harry Peace was a much loved pupil at Becton School, who died on 10 September 2022. Jayden Laidler was a much loved pupil at Kelford School, who died on 13 September 2022, and just this week, Vladut (Vlad) Matche was a much loved pupil at Fountaindale School, who died on 4 October 2022. I don’t think I will ever become accustomed to losing a pupil, and the empathy and sadness I have for their families is only counterbalanced by the pride I take in knowing our schools and staff teams created so much joy in their lives, in the time we were privileged to have them in our care. Thank you to all those who made that profound difference when we could.

Thankfully, not every goodbye holds such tragedy, and along those lines I’d like to thank Paul Girling for his time and service as a Member of Nexus MAT. Members sit at the top of our governance tree, and play a key role in holding the Board of Directors to account for their oversight of the Trust executive. Paul has been a Member of Nexus since the Trust was formed in 2016. His undertaking of such an essential role - as a volunteer - is something we should all be grateful for, and we will definitely miss the support and challenge Paul has offered over the last 6 1/2 years. Thank you, Paul.

In our 2022 Employee Opinion Survey, a common theme across our schools was a desire to know more about those employed in the central Trust team. To respond to this, this briefing now has two pages, and each briefing will provide an introductory overview of a different central Trust employee, so that our wider workforce knows who they are and what they do...

  
Warren Carratt



## Spotlight on the Central Trust Team...

In this briefing, we're focusing on... our Assistant Chief Executive Officers, **Joel Hardwick** and **Jacky Tattershall**.

Joel joined Nexus as Assistant CEO - Strategy & Partnerships in September 2020; coming from Sheffield City Council where he was Head of Commissioning for Inclusion and Schools. Joel's responsibilities in the central team cover a range of operational areas, including corporate and information governance, projects, contracts/procurement, assets, health and safety, digital technology... or as one of our Headteachers memorably put it... "COVID and complaints"!



Joel also picks up the more strategic partnership work, often focussed on growth and new developments, working with local authority colleagues across the area on securing funding to develop our offer to meet areas of growing demand. Outside of work Joel has a young family with three children aged between 4 and 10 and takes every opportunity to shoehorn in a bike ride or a hill-walk to get away from them it all.



Becoming a volunteer at age 15 in a residential hospital school for young people with special needs ignited Jacky's passion for education, teaching and learning, particularly within the field of Special Educational Needs and Disability.

After graduating with a B.Ed. (Hons), Jacky spent the next 27 happy years working in residential, independent and maintained special schools. Following completion of a PG Dip in Leadership and the NPQH, Jacky has held a number of

progressive leadership roles within these schools culminating in a Headship at Kelford School.

Jacky joined the Central Team as Assistant CEO - Quality Assurance and Improvement in 2020 following Headship; although it has been a steep learning curve, she has thoroughly enjoyed working with our amazing schools to support their improvement journey.

Jacky is a member of the Maltby Miners Welfare Training Band, where she is improving her ability to play the Tenor Horn! She also supports the Local Scouts and Guide groups through her role as Secretary of the HQ Committee.

