

CEO Briefing



I can't be the only one who found the prospect of 5 consecutive school days a little jarring last week, after two wonderful bank holiday weekends at the start of May. It was great to see so many pictures on social media of our school communities celebrating the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, and I for one had two little boys at home who were really excited for the events at their school. It's these sorts of memories that our children and young people will treasure for the rest of their lives. *We just need football to come home, soon...*

We leaped very quickly from the relaxation of two bank holiday weekends straight into **SATs**, and I'm really proud of the resilience and composure all our pupils showed throughout. Whilst SATs can - and often do - bring a heightened level of stress and anxiety for children and adults alike, it was lovely to hear from Mrs Normington that our Y6 pupils at **Craggs Community School** coped really well with the schedule, despite the complexity of some of the papers this year (especially the reading one!). Good luck to all our Y11s and above in their exams!

It was wonderful to hear feedback about **Becton School** following a recent hospital visit by the Quality network for inpatient CAMHS (QNIC), which is a network of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Whilst the QNIC visit to the Becton Centre was to review the quality of the hospital provision, the reviewing team described our school as "gold standard", remarking that staff are creative in meeting pupil needs. Huge congratulations to James, Mel and the whole team at Becton.

I'd like to welcome **Tina Havenhand** to the Board of Director, who will be officially joining us on the 1 June 2023 as our newest volunteer governor. Tina is a Director of MGRW+ and has over 25 years' experience in the audit and accountancy sector. Outside of work, Tina has held the position of Vice Chair of Governors and Finance Committee Chair for her son's SEND primary school based in Sheffield. We're delighted Tina has agreed to join our top governance team, and we look forward to her starting with us next week!

I'd also like to congratulate **Sam MacDonald** on being appointed as the new **Headteacher at North Ridge Community School**. Sam will become the new Headteacher of our school from September 2023, as **Lisa Suter** will be leaving North Ridge to take on a new central Trust role as one of our **Executive Regional Directors**, whilst also retaining Executive Headteacher responsibility for Heatherwood School. Lisa has transformed North Ridge in her 5 years leading the school, and I have no doubts that Sam will take the school even further when he becomes the next Headteacher. Well done Lisa & Sam!

Finally, there are more exciting changes ahead for some of our serving leaders, as **Danny Ross**, Head of School at Discovery Academy, leaves us on Friday to take on an exciting new role in another local MAT. **Heather Partington**, Deputy Headteacher at Pennine View, will also be leaving us in the summer and join Talbot Special School in September as their new Headteacher. I'd like to thank both Heather & Danny for their service, and wish them both well in future!

Warren

Warren Carratt

Spotlight on the Trust Team...

In this briefing, we're focusing on... our Head of Digital Technologies, **Nathan Bingham**, and our Headteacher of Hilltop School, **Rob Mulvey**...

Nathan Bingham is the Head of Digital Technologies for the Trust. Since leaving University he has worked in the education sector for over 17 years. He has experience within both the state and private school sectors and has worked in IT technical roles, as a system developer and a trainer. Nathan feels passionate about building relationships with all stakeholders across the Trust as he believes this is key to planning, developing and implementing effective IT technologies and services



Nathan's role is to deliver digital technology in a manner that ultimately leads to improved educational outcomes within our schools and ensure ICT operational effectiveness across the Trust.

Nathan lives in Sheffield with his wife, two sons and Ned the whippet. He enjoys playing five-a-side football and taking his sons to watch Chesterfield FC (only 1 is 100% convinced)



Rob Mulvey has worked in education for 29 years. 10 years in Secondary Mainstream schools and the last 19 years in three special needs schools.

Rob was the Deputy Head at Hilltop between 2013 and 2019 and returned to the school in September 2022 as Headteacher after three years working as a Head in Derbyshire.

Hilltop School holds a particularly special place in Rob's heart and he is delighted to have returned. The school is continually expanding and changing and with the support of the Senior Leadership Team, teachers and support staff he is certain that things will continue to improve and thrive.

Rob feels that it is a privilege to work in the field of Special Educational Needs and is continually amazed and inspired by the resilience and determination of the students he encounters.

Outside of school Rob enjoys attending live music gigs with his husband Zak, walking in the Peak District, spending time with their greyhound Alan and meeting friends and family socially. Rob is a keen cook and loves nothing more than reading recipes, planning dinner parties and sharing meals round the dining table. He has recently joined a community choir and although does not profess to have the greatest Tenor singing voice he believes in the words of the Mama's and the Papa's "You gotta make your own kind of music, sing your own special song".

