

# Pickwick Papers – Edition 17 – Term 1 – Oct 2023

## Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

We have had a fantastic start to 2023-2024 in all our schools. It has been lovely to welcome our new EYFS children and see them thriving and loving their learning as they have settled into school life. Have a lovely half term break!



## Trust Priorities for 2023-2024

1. Improve overall Trust-wide end of KS2 **pupil outcome data**
2. **Disadvantaged Learners**: continue relentless focus providing the best education for DL
3. Further develop **pupil voice** and opportunities for pupils to come together across Trust
4. Ensure our provision of **wider support services** for pupils and families is really strong
5. Fully integrate and support the **six joining schools** in the south hubs
6. Deploy **maths specialists** to improve consistency and drive standards
7. Launch a new **termly staff newsletter** to help staff feel connected & access information
8. Identify further ways to support staff **workload and wellbeing** across the Trust
9. Ensure **central education and business teams** are well-resourced and have capacity to support and challenge across our larger organization
10. The **Environment Strategy** proactively reduces energy and carbon usage across Trust

## Mental Health Resources

Supporting the wellbeing of children has never been so important!

Maintaining good mental health is just as important as having a healthy body. It affects the way children think, feel and act.

SSS Learning Ltd have developed two free parental resources to help with children's and parents' mental health. Links below:

[Child Mental Health & Wellbeing – 10 Top Tips for Parents](#)

[Parents' Mental Health & Wellbeing – 10 Top Tips for Parents](#)

## Our schools

Our Trust is made up of nine community and church primary schools across Wiltshire and North Dorset.

Watch [videos](#) about our schools

## Twitter

Follow us on Twitter:  
[@PickwickTrust](#)



# Pickwick staffing changes from January 2024

Pickwick Academy Trust has grown from four schools to nine schools over the last six years, and we are currently working with six more schools to join the Pickwick family this term. Our pupil numbers have grown from 1600 when we started in August 2017 to nearly 3000 now, and will grow further to over 3700 if the new schools join us.

As a result of this planned growth, our development as an organisation and our commitment to ensuring all our schools benefit from strong support and challenge, there will be some changes to our leadership structure from January 2024:

- After 26 years working at Corsham Primary School and then Pickwick Trust, Gina Cooke is retiring from her Executive Headteacher and Trust-level role – she is an exceptional educator and leader, and will be sorely missed by us all
- Our 3 remaining Trust executive leaders will become Directors of Education with specific responsibility for the schools in each hub: Julia Fountain, Rebecca Bone and Ray Picton
- Rebecca Bone will step down as Headteacher of Winterslow CE Primary School, after serving for ten years, in order to take on the role of Director of Education; and Deputy Headteacher Kate Malcolm will become Interim Headteacher at Winterslow
- The five Heads of School in the North Hub schools will all become Headteachers and will no longer have an Executive Headteacher *of* their schools (all our schools will continue to be supported and challenged by the Directors of Education)
- In recognition of the evolved role of the Business Director and the growing central business team, Emma Oldale's role will change to Chief Finance & Operating Officer (CFOO); the Head of Facilities (Mike Jones), Head of HR (Alii McAloon) and Head of Finance (Victoria Ladd) will report directly to the CFOO

## Parent Webinars

[Resilience for Learning and Well-being](#)

[Helping your child with anxiety](#)

[Digital Parenting](#)

## Possible new schools

We are now in the formal staff TUPE and wider consultation stage with the six schools we are working with. If all goes to plan, we look forward to welcoming Alderbury & West Grimstead CE Primary and Longford CE Primary in South Wiltshire, and Milton on Stour CE Primary; St George's CE Primary, Bourton; St Gregory's CE Primary, Marnhull; and Wyke Primary in North Dorset into Pickwick on 1 December 23



Pickwick Academy Trust, Pickwick Offices, Pound Pill, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9YW

[www.pickwickacademytrust.co.uk](http://www.pickwickacademytrust.co.uk); @PickwickTrust; 01249 717090; [admin@pickwickacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@pickwickacademytrust.co.uk)

