

# **The Co-operative Academies Trust** Annual Report 2014



# Our academies, sponsor and partners

The Co-operative Academies Trust is responsible for seven academies in Leeds, Manchester and Stoke-on-Trent with The Co-operative Group acting as the sponsor. The sponsorship does not involve providing money for running the academies as this still comes from the Government, but it does offer additional expertise, including governors, and access to the resources within the organisation. In addition, each academy has an educational partner from the local area to provide assistance and support.

The Co-operative's involvement in education dates back to 1844 when a group of workers from Rochdale made the decision to open their own shop in Toad Lane in an effort to provide cheaper food for working people who were struggling to pay for essentials. In an effort to raise education standards a reading room was added to the shop with people coming at night to learn by candle light. Soon after, these shops began to spread across the North of England and reading rooms became an important part of the shop.

As a business with clear moral and social values, as well as a history of valuing education, The Co-operative Group has something to offer schools, their children and the communities they serve.

Sponsorship by The Co-operative Group has brought opportunities for governors, staff and students/pupils to access expertise from within the business. These include:

- providing high quality governors drawn from senior managers in the Group and local co-operative membership
- supporting training for academy prefects
- providing Headteachers/Principals and governors with highly qualified leadership specialists
- community outreach and support initiatives including inspiring talks by senior executives to students
- mentoring and work experience for over 200 students
- advice and guidance on childhood bereavement
- reward sessions for students showing an improved attitude to learning at the Group's headquarters



# The Co-operative Academies Trust Achievements 2013 -2014

Improvements in the progress made by pupils and students at all academies

Formation of a new central Trust management team led by Frank Norris, former senior HMI with Ofsted

Two schools judged 'good' by Ofsted and another showing significant improvement

Preparation for amalgamation in to one Trust including recruitment of Board members, development of a Scheme of Delegation, TUPE consultation, one integrated finance system and chart of accounts, tendering for a single payroll provider, and alignment of key policies

All Ofsted reports identify the positive impact of the Trust and the role of governors

Refinement of risk assessment process for pupil/student achievement to ensure governors are fully aware of emerging educational issues

Appointment of two Principals (due to retirement) and four Vice Principals (due to promotion and leadership restructuring)

First annual conference for governors held at The Co-operative Group's Headquarters in Manchester with highly positive feedback from delegates

Construction and development of a new sponsored primary academy in Harehills, Leeds, to be called Nightingale Primary Academy

Sutton Trust report 'Chain Effects' identifies the Trust as effective (6th out of 31 chains in the survey) in supporting disadvantaged students

Business In The Community - Big Tick Award

Collaborative work with The Co-operative Group identified for a Big Tick Award



Brownhill Primary Academy

# Judged **GOOD** by Ofsted June 2014 – the first time in the school's history

Teaching is consistently **GOOD** overall and increasingly it is outstanding Ofsted 2014

20%  
53%

Nearly one fifth of pupils have 99% or above attendance with 53% of all pupils having attendance rates of 95% or above

'Step-up' class for children new to the country is helping to improve confidence in English

Progress in reading, writing and mathematics far exceeds national figures at Key Stage 1

49% of Year 6 pupils made better than nationally expected progress in reading

51% of Year 6 pupils made better than nationally expected progress in writing

Achieved Stage 2 Investors in Diversity (July 2014)

Two very successful residential provide adventurous activities and opportunities to develop life skills

Teatime club is successfully providing support for families around healthy and affordable cooking



Oakwood Primary Academy

# 94% of provision in school judged 'good' or better

(Learning Review 2014)



95.5% attendance in May 2014 (above national average)

Reduction in persistent absence to (below national average) 1.6%

Leadership team development including new roles and responsibilities

Introduction and positive impact of new behaviour system

Pupils exceed expected progress during Key Stage 2 in writing

Broad range of out-of-school activities including Lineham Farm club, residential, and introduction of after-school provision

Highly valued support work for vulnerable families

Excellent support for pupils with special educational needs and their families

Collaboration and support in developing educational philosophy and leadership team at new sponsored primary academy in Leeds



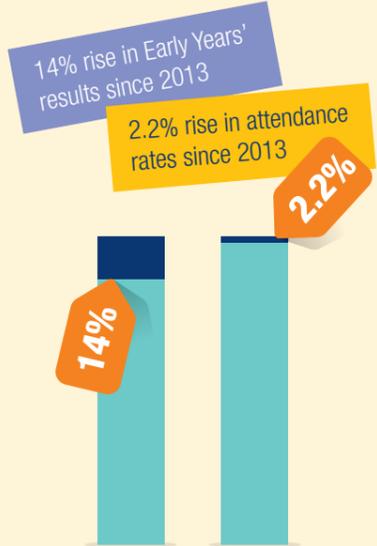
Woodlands Primary Academy

Judged good by Ofsted in June 2014



**“New teachers make excellent progress and judged as good or better”**

Ofsted 2014



**56%** rise in the proportion of children achieving Gold and Silver R.E.S.P.E.C.T badges

Over 35% of pupils make better than expected progress in the majority of year groups in Key Stage 2



Over **10%** rise in Key Stage 1 results in reading, writing and mathematics since 2013

'Safe Harbour' language provision leads to outstanding progress for new arrivals (Ofsted 2014)

Early Years' provision described as **'exceptional'** by Her Majesty's Inspector

Athletics team reaches final of North Leeds tournament

Football team reaches semi-final of Leeds Schools Competition

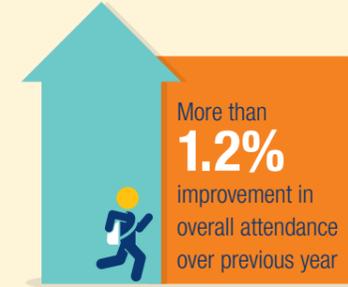
Over **£1000** raised for Sports Relief

Key Stage 2 Christmas production is huge success



The **co-operative** academy of Leeds

Shortlisted for International School of the Year by TES



Year 11 football team celebrate cup and league success with tour to Holland winning all matches

Diversity Day brings together students from across the globe to appreciate each other's cultures

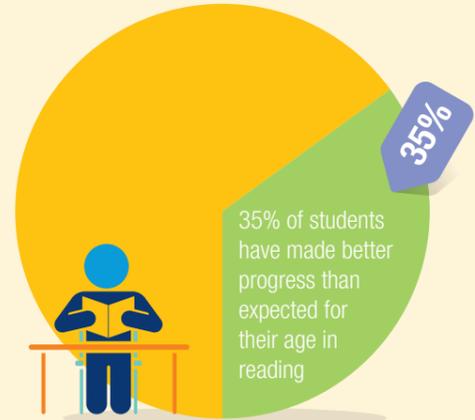


Staff and students go back in time to get a taste of life in World War Two, as part of the Guild Theme Day



Production of CATS brings the year to a stunning close

Success in athletics led by Bartos Wilczinski, Shot Putt Champion of Leeds, reaching an incredible four metres further than any other student in the city



Progress made by Year 10 students now at or above national averages

**4m**



The **co-operative** academy of Manchester

## In the top 1% of schools nationally for closing Pupil Premium attainment gap in 2013



Successful track record of Teach First placements

Development of Adult Education Centre into Business Incubation Project



Launch of new 3G pitch and new community partnership with Manchester City FC



Recipient of RHS Gold award and Highly Commended in this year's RHS Tatton Park Show



Year 7 intake increased significantly from 92 to 152 (2014)

Most improved school in Manchester (2013) for 5 A\* - C, including English and Maths, and shortlisted for Manchester Evening News School of the Year award



97.2%

0.51%

97.2% attendance – the highest of all secondary schools in Manchester

Second lowest persistent absence rate in across the city at 0.51%

Business In The Community – Big Tick Award

Successful partnership work across North Manchester, leading to IAG Gold Award



The **co-operative** academy of Stoke-on-Trent

## Leading Edge status awarded due to outstanding student progress



SSAT educational outcomes award

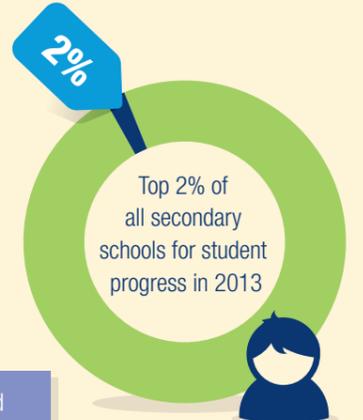
Persistent absence reduced to 4.7% (significantly below national average)



Appointment of new Principal and a Vice Principal from within existing management team due to retirement of highly regarded Principal



'Teach First' staff successfully complete their two-year programme and 'Future Leaders' recruit from within the staff team



Co-operative Young Leaders and Industrial Cadets programmes provide outstanding opportunities for community engagement and leadership skills

Most improved GCSE results in the city of Stoke 2014

Recognised as a leading centre for STEM work resulting in visit from Tristram Hunt MP

Annie

Performance of 'Annie' a fantastic success

Outstanding buildings and facilities management enables full use of new sports facilities and wider opportunities for the community and students after school and during holiday periods

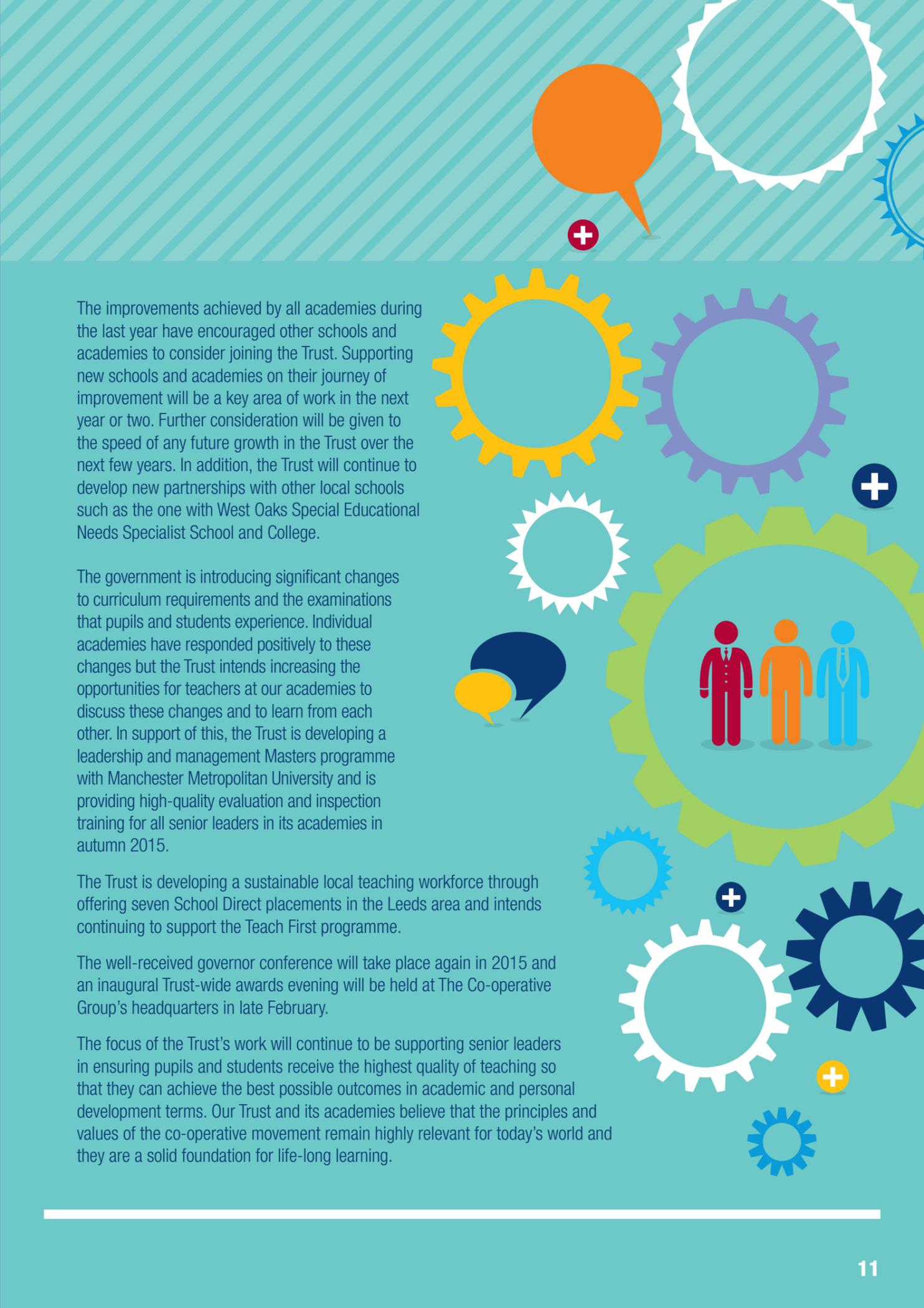


## Looking forward

The Co-operative Academies Trust is merging its three Trusts into one central Trust commencing in September 2014. This will further strengthen the existing governance arrangements and provide more transparent accountability.

A new Trust board has been appointed and additional members will join the board during autumn 2014. The new Trust arrangements place full responsibility for effective and efficient operational matters in the hands of the local academy governing bodies. These arrangements will need to be monitored and reviewed regularly to ensure they are fully fit for purpose.

By January 2015 the building of the new primary school in Leeds, Nightingale Primary Academy, will be complete and the first group of 60 pupils will have settled into their Reception classes. This provision will provide an opportunity for the trust to show how it can further regenerate local communities through high-class educational provision.



The improvements achieved by all academies during the last year have encouraged other schools and academies to consider joining the Trust. Supporting new schools and academies on their journey of improvement will be a key area of work in the next year or two. Further consideration will be given to the speed of any future growth in the Trust over the next few years. In addition, the Trust will continue to develop new partnerships with other local schools such as the one with West Oaks Special Educational Needs Specialist School and College.

The government is introducing significant changes to curriculum requirements and the examinations that pupils and students experience. Individual academies have responded positively to these changes but the Trust intends increasing the opportunities for teachers at our academies to discuss these changes and to learn from each other. In support of this, the Trust is developing a leadership and management Masters programme with Manchester Metropolitan University and is providing high-quality evaluation and inspection training for all senior leaders in its academies in autumn 2015.

The Trust is developing a sustainable local teaching workforce through offering seven School Direct placements in the Leeds area and intends continuing to support the Teach First programme.

The well-received governor conference will take place again in 2015 and an inaugural Trust-wide awards evening will be held at The Co-operative Group's headquarters in late February.

The focus of the Trust's work will continue to be supporting senior leaders in ensuring pupils and students receive the highest quality of teaching so that they can achieve the best possible outcomes in academic and personal development terms. Our Trust and its academies believe that the principles and values of the co-operative movement remain highly relevant for today's world and they are a solid foundation for life-long learning.

# Contact information

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## **In Memoriam**

### **Mr Duncan Strowger 1980 - 2014 (The Co-operative Academy of Stoke)**

Duncan was an excellent science teacher, a supportive colleague and a well loved Community Coach and he will be sadly missed.