

Words from CEO

Cidari Connect - Working in partnership

Liz Agbettoh, CEO and Peter Ashworth, Leader of Learning, Standards and Achievement attended a regional networking event, 'Securing High Performance' hosted by the new Regional Schools Commissioner, Vicky Beer' at the Oasis Media City Academy in Salford on Tuesday 1st March. The focus of the day was achieving excellence through collaboration between Multi Academy Trusts.



Also in attendance was the new National Schools Commissioner, Sir David Carter who took the opportunity to share his national priorities with the audience.

- Improving the 100 weakest Academies in the country
- Improving communication about academies
- Developing a group of 300 Academy Advocates
- Developing a structure to facilitate Multi-Academy Trust growth

The 12 largest Multi Academy Trusts will work directly with the National Schools Commissioner.

Cidari Connect - Worshipping together

We are aiming to bring together members of the Cidari family to celebrate a Eucharist in Blackburn Cathedral on 31st March. Further details will follow next week.

Cidari Connect - A growing family

I am pleased to announce that Rachel Hollas has been appointed as Deputy Head at Great Marsden St John's Primary School - A Church of England Academy. Rachel will take up her post with immediate effect.

Academy Improvement

Ofsted have just released additional guidance for Ofsted inspectors and HMI conducting inspections with regard to safeguarding concerns.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-concerns-guidance-for-inspectors>



Finance

Budget 2016/17

The Education funding agency (EFA) have published the General Annual Grant statements 2016-2017 for our Academies this week. Schools can now start the budget setting process for the coming year.

Please remember that final budget plans need to be completed and signed off by your Governing body no later than 31st May 2016.

There will be a budget workshop to focus on key areas and challenges for the coming year held at the School Business Managers network on the 23rd March 2016.

Communications

This week Matt visited STEP Multi Academy Trust. A similar size to Cidari, this visit gave a fantastic insight into the development of Trust systems and the lessons learned on their Journey which will be invaluable as we continue to review and consolidate our own systems and processes.

There is now a Business Continuity page on the Cidari website. This page will be updated as required and displays the latest weather and warnings for our localities.

You can find the page at http://www.cidarieducation.co.uk/our-academies/Bus_Cont

EFA Information: asbestos in schools - data collection deadline extended to Thursday 31 March 2016

The deadline for completing the online form (link previously sent directly to Headteachers) to collect data on the management of asbestos in schools has been extended to 31 March 2016. The deadline will not be extended beyond this date. Once Headteachers have completed the survey they will receive immediate feedback and advice based on their responses. The survey is an excellent opportunity for schools to evaluate their approach to asbestos management.



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