



**Batley** Multi Academy Trust

# The **Batley Buzz**

**The Trust at the heart of the Batley community**

**June 2025**

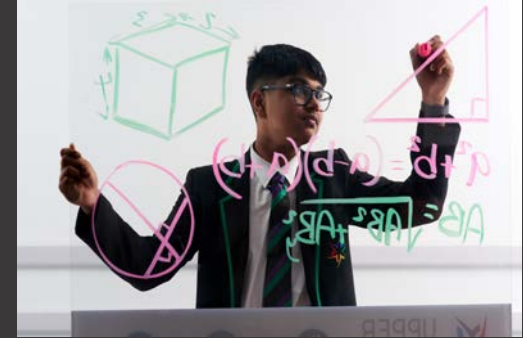
Edition 10

Our children deserve the best.  
No child left behind - ever.  
Every school a great school.  
Creating remarkable people.



# Our Trust Vision

Every young person,  
regardless of their background or  
starting point, receives a first-class  
education, coupled with  
high-quality care, guidance and  
support.



# Our Infant and Primary News



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## Manorfield Art Focus

Our nursery children have created wonderful paintings inspired by the story *The Naughty Bus*.

After enjoying the book together, they brought the bus's adventurous journey to life through their artwork, showing great creativity and enthusiasm. The activity encouraged storytelling, fine motor skills, and plenty of laughter as the little ones proudly displayed their vibrant masterpieces.



## All about Africa

Reception children have started learning about Africa as part of their work leading up to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park trip. Their learning began with African animals, supported by the story *Handa's Surprise* as a key focus.

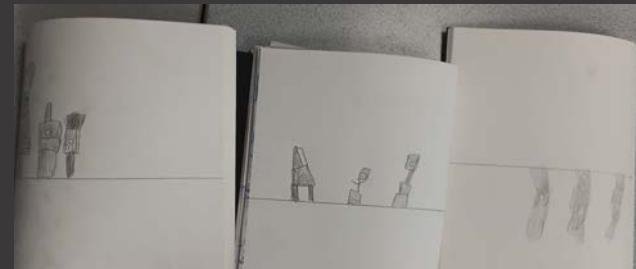
They have also created some beautiful wild-themed artwork, including sunset silhouettes. Through this, they explored different ways to combine media and developed their understanding of how to create wonderful pieces of art!



## Clay sculptures for Year 2

Year 2 have been busy creating their own clay sculptures, inspired by the work of British artist, Barbara Hepworth. They explored her unique style, focusing on abstract shapes, smooth surfaces, and the use of holes and space to create interesting forms. Using their hands and sculpting tools, the children experimented with shaping and carving the clay, learning new techniques along the way.

This creative project allowed them to express their ideas in 3D, while developing their fine motor skills and understanding of modern art. The finished pieces were imaginative and full of character, reflecting each child's individual interpretation of Hepworth's work.



# Healthy chips and veg!

Reception enjoyed making healthy chips using Frylight after reading the 'Oliver's vegetables' story. Learning activities included retelling the story, learning new words and writing instructions. We also tasted the different vegetables from the story.



# The Plumber Drummer

Reception - Year 2 learners had a fabulous day when *The Plumber Drummer* came to visit. He played different lengthed pipes with flip flops! The long pipes made a low pitched sound and the short pipes made a high pitched sound. The workshops that followed were even more enjoyable and engaging. The learners used drumsticks to play to the beat using buckets as drums.



# Senses' walk

Reception learners went on a senses' walk during RE. There were some thoughtful and detailed responses when asked what they could hear, smell, see and touch.



# Parent/Carer Information Bonanza!

There was a great 'Batley Buzz' in our school hall as we hosted our first ever Parent/Carer Information Bonanza event, where the following organisations attended to talk to parents/carers; PCAN, communityplus, HappyMOMents, NHS, Uniform Exchange and Kirklees. Feedback from parents/carers shared that they found it very informative and that they looked forward to the next one!

We also look forward to hosting more uniform exchange sessions... what an impressive positive contribution to the environment!

# Amazing art week

Art Week was a great success! There was a sculpture trail in our beautiful front garden and each class made a collaborative sculpture. Parents/carers were invited to come and see the sculptures and there was a huge turnout. All the sculptures were very different and there was some great feedback from everyone who came. The sun shone which made it even more enjoyable!



## Sunny Scarborough

Years 1 and 2 had a fantastic trip to Scarborough, visiting the lighthouse, the RNLI station and playing in the sea! Fortunately, the sun was out and the children could experience a 'proper day at the beach!' Great fun was had by all!



## Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Years 5 and 6 had a wonderful trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) this week, seeing all of the sculptures and taking part in a workshop with one of the artists.

They were fascinated by the artwork of Barbara Hepworth, Daniel Arsham and Ursula von Rydingsvard, amongst others.

It was a great day!



## Making New Friends

Year 5 recently met their penpals from Moorlands School in Huddersfield at Oakwell Hall. The art event is part of the Creative Links project which encourages us to meet new people and find out about their lives.



## Batley Girls' Art Exhibition

Some highly talented artists from Batley Girls' have inspired our learners to express their creativity.

Their work has been displayed in the hall for everyone to admire. Batley Girls' learners visited to discuss their sources of inspiration and ideas with Year 6.



# The Red Dress

A group of keen artists from Healey visited the WOVEN exhibition of 'The Red Dress' at Oakwell Hall. The Red Dress has been brought together over time creating a united voice of **love, equality and peace**, as well as showcasing an exquisite variety of embroidery skill, traditions, symbols, motifs and imagery from around the world.

This award winning project was initiated by British artist Kirstie Macleod, in 2009, to help marginalised women tell their stories through stitching, uniting people around the world without borders. The dress now features the work of more than **300 embroiderers from 51 countries**.

The Red Dress is the inspiration for an art project, and we look forward to displaying our work which will embody diversity, history, culture, art and creativity.



# Year 6 loving the sea at Whitby!



## Environmental Appreciation and Learning

Year 2RC took part in a live interactive presentation with the charity **52lives** all about **World Environment Day**. They learned why it is important to look after the environment and some interesting facts - **Did you know that it takes 200 years for a plastic straw to decompose?** The learners answered questions and some of our answers were read out to other schools taking part. After the presentation, they designed posters and discussed ways in which we all can look after the environment. They also took home extra homework about investigating our plastic usage at home.



# Breakfast Club Launch

We are delighted to announce that we were selected as one of the 750 schools taking part in the government backed free breakfast club scheme. The initiative aims to support working families and ensure children start the day with a nutritious meal, potentially improving their attendance, behaviour and attainment.

Currently, we welcome around 60 learners each morning to enjoy their breakfast with their friends and members of our staff team in a safe and familiar environment. Each new day brings the choice of a number of paper-based activities for the learners to enjoy as well as books from our library. Every Friday a learner is awarded the coveted Breakfast Club Award, which gives them the honour of being the main helper for Breakfast Club the following week.

The club is also giving our hard-working parents/carers the opportunity for an additional 40 minutes of childcare each morning, which over the school year is an incredible 130 additional hours.

We are eager to continue growing our Breakfast Club and invite all primary learners to join in our fun - our doors open at 8am each morning - see you there!



# Year 5 and 6 go to Eden Camp

At the end of last month, Year 5 and Year 6 had the opportunity to visit Eden Camp Modern History Museum, as part of their World War II topic. They had a fantastic day exploring the many different exhibits - looking at photographs and artefacts from the war, and gaining an insight into what life was like during the time.

The most talked about exhibit was 'The Blitz', which took us through a re-enactment with sound effects, lights, projections, pyrotechnics and recreated streets all gave the learners a practical feel for what they had learnt about in their topic lessons.



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## Countryside Day

Our best attending class of the year had the wonderful opportunity to take part in a Countryside Day at the Great Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate as a reward for all their efforts. The visit included an action-packed programme; our learners had the opportunity to see different birds of prey, go pond dipping, make their own noodle dishes and craft some personalised jewellery. They also met lots of different animals, with the 'dancing sheep' in the sheep show (pictured) being a particular highlight!

## Visit from a Batley Hero

Recently, we were honoured to host a truly inspirational guest. Ismail Patel, a former learner, is now a Batley hero. He made the local and national news when he battled his way back from a brain injury, after being told by doctors he would struggle to walk again. After months of gruelling rehabilitation, he now competes in countless running races up and down the country. We were delighted he accepted our invitation to share his story in one of our whole school assemblies. He spoke about the power of determination and the importance of never giving up, even when the going gets tough. Our learners were really excited to see all of Ismail's medals which he kindly donated to the school for us to display and inspire our learners to follow their dreams. Thank you, Ismail – a true Batley hero!



## Smile Squad

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting learner mental health and emotional wellbeing, we have been working closely with Kirklees Keep in Mind (KKiM) to further strengthen our provision. KKiM visited us to raise awareness of mental health and to discuss the role of a Wellbeing Champion.

Following a learner vote, we successfully elected a team of Wellbeing Champions, who are known in school as the *Smile Squad*. KKiM worked with the SENDCo/Wellbeing Lead to deliver a series of training sessions designed to equip the Smile Squad with the skills and knowledge needed for their role.

As part of their training, the Smile Squad developed their active listening skills and gained a clear understanding of the importance of safeguarding - particularly the distinction between being a supportive friend and knowing when it's necessary to seek adult help. The team also explored practical strategies to support new learners and socially isolated learners, ensuring that all children feel welcomed, included, and emotionally supported during the school day.



## Cricket success

A group of our Year 5 and 6 learners enjoyed participating in the North Kirklees Smash Cricket finals at Batley Cricket Club.

Having successfully reached the finals after progressing through the earlier rounds of the competition, we played five other schools from across the North Kirklees area. The learners did themselves proud, winning four out of five matches with some scintillating cricket.

After performing so well, we are now through to the area finals – a fabulous achievement!



# Our Secondary News



BATLEY GIRLS'  
HIGH SCHOOL



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UPPER  
BATLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Believe Achieve Succeed*



Batley Multi Academy Trust



## Year 9 pitch sustainable communities

Winners of our sustainable communities project in Geography were invited to pitch their idea about how to make our school a more sustainable place. The pitch was presented to the panel of judges; Mr Kibble, Mrs Ahmad and Mrs Wilby.

Learners suggested ideas such as a design-a-bin competition, improved social areas, and solar panels - even going as far as researching the total cost of energy at BGHS.

They faced a tough grilling from the judges, but presented very well to make our school more sustainable.



## Flamborough Geography Excursion

Year 10 and 12 Geography learners have completed their second fieldwork day in the sunny skies of east Yorkshire.

Our first stop was Flamborough Head, famous for its dramatic cliffs, historic lighthouse, and amazing wildlife.

We were greeted by the towering white cliffs that stretch for miles along the coast, also home to an impressive range of seabirds, including puffins and guillemots. We even saw seals cooling off on the beach!

We spent some time walking along the cliff-top paths, marveling at the panoramic views and completed some field sketches of the area to highlight key coastal features.

Our second site, Hornsea Beach, gave us a unique opportunity to explore the natural beauty of the coastline as well as the important work being done to protect it. Located on the East Yorkshire coast, Hornsea Beach is a popular destination for visitors and locals alike. However, like many other coastal areas, it faces challenges from erosion, rising sea levels, and human activity.

During our visit, we learned how coastal management is crucial in protecting this beautiful beach and the surrounding environment. Learners reviewed erosion rates by taking beach-depth measurements. It was fantastic to see them working so well together.



## Year 10 Photography

This year has seen the first group of photography learners here for a few years, which is brilliant! They have now produced the first of their final presentations and have worked extremely hard to take, edit and present their photographs in an imaginative way themed on topics such as mechanical objects and landscapes, developing their own ideas.

Learners edited their photographs in Photoshop; changing the effects, colours and exposures before selecting which ones they wanted to take forward into their final design and considering the formats for the display of their work.

The ideas pictured demonstrate:

- Splitting six landscape photographs into nine pieces and then created a rubix cube for them to be displayed and manipulated.
- Looking at mechanical objects, the learner decided to take images of bikes and cars, suspending them within the frame of a bike wheel as well as developing a stand for the wheel

We think you'll agree, they are both impactful!



## London Drama Trip

A group of enthusiastic Year 9 learners had the incredible opportunity to immerse themselves in the vibrant arts and culture of London. One of the highlights was watching *Matilda the Musical*, a dazzling production that left learners in awe of the acting, singing, and stage design. This was followed by the riotously funny *The Play That Goes Wrong*, which had everyone laughing from start to finish. Both performances gave learners a deeper appreciation of live theatre and the creative talent behind it.

The group also explored the bustling Covent Garden and the scenic Southbank, soaking up the lively atmosphere and spotting some amazing street performers. The standout favourite for many was the visit to the *Harry Potter Studio Tour*. From the magical sets to behind-the-scenes secrets, learners were truly captivated.

The trip sparked real inspiration; many learners expressed a newfound interest in theatre, set design, sound and lighting, as well as careers in acting or directing. This was a trip to remember — and perhaps the beginning of some exciting journeys into the world of the arts!



## Sports studies support for primaries

A huge well done to 12 of our Sports Studies learners who have completed their Yorkshire Cricket Board: Introduction to Coaching and Leadership programme, which meant they were able to support our local primary schools, running four cricket festivals.

Learners umpired and coached the primary school learners with their batting, bowling and fielding skills. We received some fantastic feedback from staff and the School Sport Games coordinator, who was very positive about the knowledge and application of the Sports Studies learners.

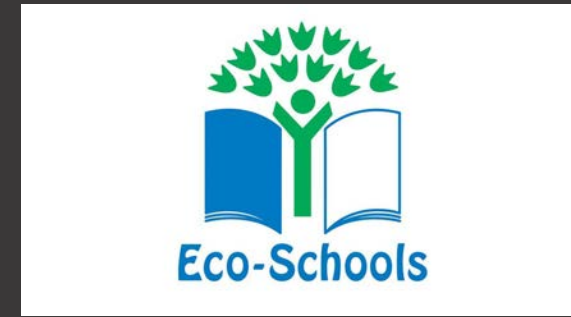
If you know about cricket, you will understand the poses in the photos!



## Eco-Schools award with distinction - again!

We are extremely pleased to announce that our Eco-Committee have once again achieved an Eco-Schools Green Flag Award with Distinction.

The team at Eco-Schools have said that they're excited to continue working with us, as we build on our successes and will support us to keep empowering young people to protect our planet.



## From school to fork...

There is a hub of activity in the horticulture department at the moment!

We have a variety of tomato plants, as well as produce too, including; lettuce, potatoes, rhubarb, strawberries and herbs.

Learners and staff are welcome to take these home, and many of these items (and more!) will be available throughout the summer. It's an absolute pleasure to be able to share what we have grown with our school community.

The Horticulture Club is now up and running too - every Tuesday after school - for both staff and learners. We look forward to seeing some new faces!



# Our Sixth Form News



## Class of 2025

BG6 learners celebrated their last day in college before taking A Level exams with a pizza party organised by the bg6 team. Learners enjoyed the celebrations with their peers and teachers and had a fabulous afternoon.



## Progression Module Interviews

As part of their ongoing Progression Module studies bg6 learners were joined by staff from Huddersfield University for their mock interview unit. Learners were asked about their future plans and the experiences they have had so far through the super-curricular programme at bg6. Huddersfield University staff were highly complementary of how articulate are learners are and the breath of their experiences.

## UCAS updates

The Year 13s are nearing the end of their time with us. 72 of our learners have applied to continue their education at university. Many have been successful in securing offers for places in September for a wide range of courses and future career pathways. From Law at Glasgow University, Optometry in Manchester to Nursing at Huddersfield our young women have a bright future ahead of them.

Our Year 12 learners are about to start on this journey. In a few short weeks our prospective medics and dentists will be applying to take the UCAT test required for these competitive admissions. All learners will be researching future options and starting to prepare applications and personal statements.

## UCAS Discovery Fair

We will be taking 65 Y12 learners to Leeds Beckett University to attend the UCAS Fair. All learners had the opportunity to:

- Chat to universities and colleges about their courses and university life
- Speak to employers and apprenticeship providers about what an apprenticeship is like and the options available
- Listen to talks from experts in their fields
- Get dedicated support from our UCAS experts about options





# Our Staff Superheroes



**Ruqayyah Rawat**

Ruqayyah has been a fantastic Teaching Assistant in Year 6 at Healey, and will be leaving in July to start her Teaching Training. We are so pleased her placement will be with us in the autumn term too!

**Terri Halliday**

Terri is a Science Technician, and more, at UBHS! She does great work with the bees (and the learners!) on top of her role in science and the support she offers colleagues - Terri is always happy to help.

**Liana Warbrick**

Liana is the Exams' Manager at BGHS and joined in January. Since then, she has managed a new team of invigilators and made sure exam season has been one of the smoothest to date, with positive feedback from all involved, including external agencies.

**Gemma Sinclair**

Gemma's role as SENDCo at UBHS has really seen her excel. She does excellent work with the SEND provision and has cultivated a robust team.

**Aatikah Omar, Aishah Kholwadia, Faatima Seedat, Firdous Patel, Haarith Dadipatel, Haleemah Patel, Musa Ravat and Yusuf Mayet**

Huge congratulations to our **Aspire To Educate Trainees** from Batley Girls' High School, Healey Junior Infant and Nursery School, Hyrstmount Junior School, Purlwell Infant and Nursery School, and Upper Batley High School who have passed their NCFE Level 3 qualification in Supporting Teaching and Learning.

Your hard work, dedication and commitment is superb. Well done and congratulations!



# Our Community Work ...

really means a lot to us, and we see our Trust and our schools at the very heart of our community. **Community** Makes Us and it is the **unity** in community that matters.

## Run for Jo

What a Batley brilliant day for this event with so many colleagues (& families) taking part in the 6.5k run & the family fun run, as well as all the amazing volunteers without whom the event would not have been able to take place.



## Don't forget: Batley Bake Off 🍰

Join us if you'd like to enter, or come along to taste the cakes, and enjoy a feel-good Friday morning.

**Friday 27 June 2025**  
**Jo Cox Conference Centre**  
at Upper Batley High School  
**10:00am-12:00pm**

*Bring your entries to the reception at Upper Batley by 9am*

**All the schools in our Trust family are taking part in The Big Batley Litter Pick...** 🗑️👉



**Choose us with your Tesco blue token and support our Community Garden Project**

## How to get involved?

When you have finished your Tesco shop in one of the **11 stores listed below**, you will be given a blue token to vote with. If we receive the most customer votes we will receive funding to realise our plans to create a fantastic space with an orchard and raised beds for our Trust family of schools as well as the local community.

**You can be a part of it and benefit from it too!**

Batley Extra Large (WF17 5DR)  
Outwood Wakefield Express (WF1 2DX)  
Tingley Westerton Road Express (WF3 1PZ)  
Criggstone Express (WF4 3EF)  
Ardsley Express (WF3 2JA)  
Wakefield Express (WF1 4LH)  
Ossett Express (WF5 9NQ)  
Dewsbury Yorks Express (WF12 8AJ)  
Mirfield Queen Road Express (WF14 8AN)  
Wakefield Barn Road Express (WF1 5NP)  
Dewsbury Leeds Road Express (WF12 7DR)



# The Fields Community Spaces at Field Lane and Manorfield

We have a wide range of events and activities on offer at The Fields, from one-off sessions to regular groups to meet a variety of needs, and interests.

Please take a look and share with friends and family who may be interested.

**Contact The Fields Community Space Administrator for more information or to let us know what you'd like to see:**

Huda Khan  
[fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk](mailto:fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk)  
 07497 512801

*Find us at:*

**Field Lane:** Albion Street, Batley, WF17 5AH


**Manorfield:** Manor Way, Batley, WF17 7DQ



**The Fields**  
Community Spaces



## What's on at The Fields - June & July 2025

	What's on at The Fields - June & July 2025			
	Events	Providers	Location	When
Monday	Gardening Club	The Fields Team	Manorfield School	Every Monday 9:00-10:00am
	Fields Knitting & Crochet	The Fields Team	Manorfield School	From 2 June 10:00-11:30am
Tuesday	Tiny Readers	The Fields Team	Manorfield School	Every Tuesday 9:00-10:00 am
	Clear Arts & Crafts	Clear	Manorfield School	3-17 June 10:00-11:00am
Wednesday	Fields Creative Walks	S2R	Manorfield School	From 4 June 9:30-11:30am
	PCAN Coffee Morning	PCAN	Manorfield School	11 June 9:00-10:00am
				2 July 9:00-10:00am
	Pop-up Active Travel Hub	EPIK	Manorfield School	11 June 12:00-4:00pm
				Every Thursday 9:00am-11:30am
				From 8 May 9:00am-12:00pm
Thursday	ESOL	Kirklees College	Manorfield School	
	Prepare to Volunteer or Work in Schools	Kirklees Success Centre	Field Lane School	5-26 June 1:45-3:00pm
	My Wellbeing w/Kirklees	Kirklees Wellness Team	Field Lane School	3 July 8:45am-1:30pm
	Pop-up Active Travel Hub	EPIK	Field Lane School	6, 13 & 20 June 9:30-10:30am
Friday	Clear Wellbeing Sessions	Clear	Field Lane School	One-off session Longer running session
For further information, you can reach us at <b>07497 512801</b> or <a href="mailto:fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk">fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk</a>				

# Careers: the golden thread

## Essential Skills

### Spotlight on: **Aiming High**

Across our Trust family of schools we empower all our learners to be the best version of themselves each and every day. This helps them to believe in themselves and what they can achieve.

During this time of year when there are assessments and exams taking place with learners of all ages, it's even more crucial that we help to instill a real sense of self-confidence.

Staff across our schools support learners, before their exams or assessments, by gathering them together in a shared space and providing them with breakfast so that they're with others in the same situation and we can ensure they have nutritious food to fuel their brains.

In our secondary schools, staff also run booster sessions to help learners focus on specific subjects they need extra help with.

We know that through hard work and determination, great things can be achieved.

### **Reaching desired destinations**



### **Being challenged**



### **Nurture**



### **Following passions**



### **Empowered**

# Great Governance

## Our Trust is governed by three key layers: Members, Trustees and Governors

**Members** are custodians of the Trust. They have a hands-off role in terms of managing the Trust and act as a 'check and balance' on the performance of the Multi Academy Trust.

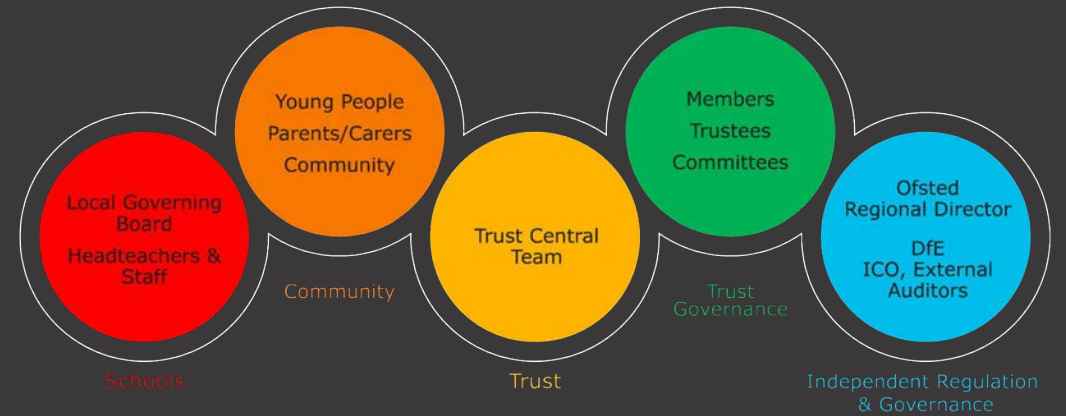
Batley Multi Academy Trust is a legal entity and our **Board of Trustees** have collective accountability and responsibility for the Trust, assuring themselves that there is compliance with regulatory, contractual and statutory requirements. The Board of Trustees provide:

- Strategic leadership of the Trust
- Accountability and assurance
- Engagement

Trustees must apply the highest standards of conduct, adhering to the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles), ensure robust governance and effective financial management.

All of the schools in our Trust family have **Local Governing Boards** - these boards are made up of Co-opted Governors, Parent/Carer Governors and Staff Governors.

Our Governors play a key role, alongside our Board of Trustees, and act as the 'custodians of culture' and the 'caretakers of promoting and celebrating their school's uniqueness'. There are no formal qualifications required for a role in Governance, simply a passion and desire to support the young people of Batley and the wider school community. We are looking for great team players, and people with a forward thinking, solution-focused approach.



## Do you want to be part of an amazing team?



Members



Trustees



Governors

If you are interested or know of anyone who is,  
please contact Laura Bland on:

**[governance.professional@batleymat.co.uk](mailto:governance.professional@batleymat.co.uk)**

# Our wider links

Our family of schools  
Works closely with the  
BBEST Hub.

Take a look at  
their website for  
details of local services,  
support and activities.

We are proud to lead the  
Yorkshire Rose Teaching Partnership  
- providing high quality primary  
and secondary teacher training  
in West Yorkshire.

This consortium includes 15 local  
schools, Exceed SCITT and local  
Higher Education Institutions.

Our schools play a key role in the  
Calderdale & Kirklees Teaching  
School Hub. This Hub offers support  
to over 400 schools across our  
region. The purpose of the hub is to  
provide high-quality professional  
development for teachers and  
leaders.

We are proud to  
partner with the Global  
Equality Collective. We  
are working with them  
to support our  
approach to inclusion  
for staff and learners,  
driven by our belief  
that no child should be  
left behind, ever.



# Support & advice for parents/carers and families

Childnet International has produced a very informative resource for parents/carers to help you keep your child safe online:

[www.childnet.com/resources/parent-and-carer-toolkit/](http://www.childnet.com/resources/parent-and-carer-toolkit/)



## For young people;

### Childline

Providing help & support for under 18s.

0800 11 11

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)



### The Mix

Provides essential support for 13-25 year olds.

[www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk)



## For families;

### NSPCC

Free support & advice for parents/carers worried about a young person.

0808 800 500

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)



### Family Lives

Free, professional non-judgemental advice.

0800 800 222

[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)



## Other specialist services;

### Get it right from a genuine site

Find out which sites are legal for downloading movies, music and games

[www.getitrightfromagenuinesite.org](http://www.getitrightfromagenuinesite.org)

GET IT RIGHT  
FROM A  
GENUINE SITE

### Ask about games

Advice and online guides about gaming and PEGI ratings.

[www.askaboutgames.com](http://www.askaboutgames.com)



# Batley Multi Academy Trust

## *Our Trust family*



Founded 1612



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