Conference Guide
25th & 26th February 2020
De Vere Horwood Estate, Milton Keynes

Introducing our Event Chairman:

Adrian Ball
Chief Executive

Chairman:

Chief Executive

Chief Executive

National Director, Education

Chief Executive

Chief Executive

Regional Chief Executive and Ofsted Lead Inspector

Deputy Chief Executive

CIO

Director of IT

School Engagement Lead

Director of Education and Research

Head of IT

Standards Director

Partnership Network Events
DAY ONE

07:45 - 08:35  Registration

08:35 - 08:40  Chairmans opening remarks
Adrian Ball - Chief Executive

08:40 - 09:40  How are large MATs managing improvement?
Julian Drinkall, Chief Executive of Academies Enterprise Trust (AET), and Nick Hudson, Chief Executive of Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT), will be hosted by Adrian Ball, Chief Executive of Diocese of Ely MAT on this panel session to describe their trusts growth journey and their respective challenges with turnaround and continuous improvement.

The panel will be talking through; What does and doesn't work in building a strong trust, school improvement models, governance, and financial management. This session will ultimately explore what it takes to manage improvement efficiently and effectively, but most importantly, continuously.

The session will conclude with a Q&A from the audience.
Julian Drinkall - Chief Executive
Nick Hudson - Chief Executive

09:40 - 10:10  Headline Sponsor Presentation

10:10 - 10:45  Dragons’ Den - Speed Presentations
During this session, each commercial provider will deliver a short pitch about their own product or service and how they believe it can ease the burden of school system or service challenges.

10:45 - 12:00  Coffee Break & Business Meetings

12:00 - 12:20  Creating a digitally ‘MAD’ culture!
We often hear about the link between culture and operational effectiveness. Therefore it would make sense to suggest that people development should be a priority for all businesses. So where does IT/digital fit in?
Together, let’s explore how effective digital leadership can enable people, with a shared purpose, enhance performance through relationships that make a difference.
Jonny Wathen - CIO
13:55 - 14:25 The role of IT in MATs

Jonny Wathen – CIO from Wellspring Academies Trust, Mike Vaughan MBA – Director of IT from Unity Schools Partnership, and Lisa Hawker – Head of IT from Ark Schools, will be joining this Panel Discussion to explore the role of IT in Multi-Academy Trusts.

They will discuss their challenges and the importance of EdTech; how it can enhance teaching and learning, and how it can improve the performance of the education system.

Jonny Wathen - CIO
Mike Vaughan - Director of IT
Lisa Hawker - Head of IT

14:25 - 14:45 Building a strong professional culture to support teacher learning and improve pupil outcomes

- Why supporting your teachers’ development is the most powerful thing you can do to improve pupil outcomes
- Building a professional culture in your school or MAT to enable all your staff to develop
- How a strong professional culture can support teacher job satisfaction, recruitment and retention
- Planning opportunities for professional learning and collaboration
- How research engagement can play a part.

Cat Scutt - Director of Education and Research

14:45 - 16:00 Coffee Break & Business Meetings

16:00 - 16:30 Supporting Schools to achieve great value by reducing non-staff spend

Providing support and guidance to schools and academies to improve how they buy goods and services. Helping them save time, money and improve outcomes by reducing non-staff spend.

Catherine Kelsall - School Engagement Lead
17:20 - 17:40 Let the IT ‘Geeks’ out of the Cupboard

IT is probably the third highest cost for an organisation behind staffing and premises costs. So, what does IT do, what doesn’t it and why? Let’s demystify how IT can provide value for money and positively impact not just teaching and learning but all aspects of a school, Trust or MAT, providing both tangible and intangible benefits.

Let the IT ‘geeks’ out of the cupboard, open Pandora’s Box and learn how to realise the advantages a fully engaged, integrated, involved and motivated IT team can bring to the organisation.

Mike Vaughan MBA - Director of IT

17:40 - 18:00 Sustaining improvement in pupils’ outcomes: How do Ofsted 2019 framework change the narrative of leadership in schools?

In the world of changing educational landscape with increasing adaptive challenges facing school leaders, maintaining a sense of agency to give pupils the best outcome to succeed requires a new narrative of leadership to navigate and curate the vast information with increased Ofsted expectations and the teacher recruitment crisis. Empowering teachers to deliver demanding subject contents which is underpinned by an ambitious curriculum intention invites reflection on the desirability of the school’s systems, culture and systems. This presentation examines the current narrative of leadership on pupils’ outcomes and whether the aim for remaining is good enough? What are the new possibilities?

Dr Jeffery Quaye - Regional Chief Executive and Ofsted’s Lead Inspector

18:00 - 18:05 Chairmans closing remarks

Adrian Ball - Chief Executive

18:05 - 19:45 Hotel Check In / Free Time

19:45 - 22:30 Drinks Reception & Networking Dinner
08:45 - 08:50   Chairman re-opening event

Adrian Ball - Chief Executive

08:50 - 09:20   Ofsted's new framework and what it means for MATs

Sean Harford became Ofsted's National Director, Education in September 2015. He oversees Ofsted's inspection policy for early years, maintained, independent and unregistered schools, and further education and skills. Since joining Ofsted as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors in 2003 he has worked in the School Improvement Division, School Inspection Policy and he led on organisational restructuring in 2009. He has led section 5 and section 8 inspections of schools in the primary and secondary phases, also specialising in the monitoring of schools in categories of concern.

In this session, Sean will discuss what changes have been applied to school inspections carried out from September 2019 under the education inspection framework (EIF). How will schools be inspected now? What does this mean for MATs?

Sean Harford - National Director, Education

09:20 - 09:40   Josh Greaves will discuss Wellspring Academy Trust’s experience of growing from a MAT of 6 to 23 Academies since late 2015, including the trials and tribulations of onboarding and beginning to address the needs of a diverse 30+ facility estate and fundamentally re-organising estates structures and personnel across five Local Authority areas... whilst simultaneously delivering £65million in new-build school buildings.

Wellspring have encountered much that is good and some that is bad, accompanied by a dose of what’s fairly dodgy along this journey. Josh’s contribution seeks to share the Trust’s learning to support others facing similar opportunities and challenges.

Josh Greaves - Deputy Chief Executive

09:40 - 10:00   Provider presentation

10:00 - 11:00   Coffee Break & Business Meetings

11:00 - 11:20   Strategy, Transformation, Change – The Ark Journey

In the last 3 years, we have exited a Managed Service Contract, designed and delivered an innovative Hybrid IT Service including the TUPE of staff back to Ark Schools, defined and delivered an IT Strategy including a transformation and change programme to standardise 5 key areas as well as a Data Centre relocation project ahead of our office move.

What have we learnt, what were the successes, how did we achieve key stakeholder buy in and what does the future look like.

Lisa Hawker - Head of IT
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:25 - 11:45</td>
<td>Provider Main Room/Breakout Room 1/Breakout Room 2</td>
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<td>11:50 - 12:10</td>
<td>Highly effective school improvement strategies in a MAT context - raising standards across several schools</td>
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<td>This session will cover:</td>
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<td>• approaches to and phases of school improvement</td>
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<td>• effective school improvement systems</td>
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<td>• school improvement through curriculum development</td>
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<td>• the role of teacher development and training</td>
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<td>Claire Heald - Standards Director</td>
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<td>12:10 - 12:30</td>
<td>System Leadership in St Chad's Multi Academies Trust</td>
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<td>Sue will share the journey of St Chad's academies Trust which has grown from 1 school to 20 schools and how the culture and ethos of a learning organisation is crucial to its success.</td>
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<td>Focussing on system leadership and a true and transparent partnership Sue will share the development of a multi academy trust where leaders support and challenge each other so that children really do come first.</td>
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<td>Sue Wedgwood - Chief Executive</td>
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<td>12:30 - 13:00</td>
<td>Chairman's Closing Keynote: How do we solve a problem like small schools?</td>
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<td>With thirty-nine schools across the Trust, of which twenty-two have fewer than one hundred and fifty pupils, DEMAT faces a range of challenges both educationally and financially.</td>
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<td>Adrian Ball, Chief Executive of DEMAT, will be discussing the approaches he and his team are taking to create a sustainable model of education to support the long-term development of small schools and the young people in their care.</td>
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<td>Adrian Ball - Chief Executive</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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