

Abingdon Learning Trust, Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AW Telephone: 01235 200239. Email: enquiries@abingdonlearningtrust.org

Dear Parents, Carers and the whole Abingdon Learning Trust community,

Welcome to a new academic year as part of the Abingdon Learning Trust community. For those who aren't familiar, Abingdon Learning Trust is a local multi-academy trust which currently operates two primary schools (Rush Common and St. Michael's), two secondary schools (John Mason and Fitzharrys) plus the JMF6 sixth form. Each school has its own governance and management bodies, but work collaboratively under the umbrella of the Trust to have an even greater impact in raising standards, improving facilities and meeting the needs of young people across our community. In total 2300 students attend one of our schools and are supported by our dedicated team of around 300 professionals.

I was delighted to be elected Chair of the Board of Trustees just before the summer break. I've lived in Abingdon for over 25 years and have three children all of whom have attended (or still attend) Trust schools. I've been active in school Governance for around 15 years, mostly in the primary sector, and have been part of the Trust for the past 4 years. Professionally I work in sustainability and climate change, as such I'm really proud of our Trust wide commitment to net zero – something that is very important to all our students.

As a Trust we are currently looking to add some more capacity and experience to the Board. In particular we are keen to hear from any finance professionals and people with experience of primary school governance. Such expertise will help the Trust to progress its growth and effectiveness. If you would like to become involved, please contact me on ibehling@abingdonlearningtrust.org or our Chief Executive Dr Fiona Hammans (fhammans@abingdonlearningtrust.org) in the first instance.

We have some exciting and ambitious aims for the Trust over the next few years, all of which will benefit the communities we serve: our pupils, our staff, our education partners and businesses. Could you be part of making them happen? Your sincerely,

Ian Behling

Chair of Board of Trustees Abingdon Learning Trust