

Synergy Multi Academy Trust - Half Termly Update for Parents and Carers 2025-2026 - Summer 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

As promised last half term. I am writing to update you on the work Synergy Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) has been undertaking across our schools, and to explain why this work is important for your child's education and wellbeing. Our Trusts core values of **Ambition, Inclusion and Collaboration** are echoed in each school's identity and within their own values and ethos.

Ambition:

- Across all of our schools we have high expectations regarding behaviour and attendance. Recent data shared by the Department for Education shows that pupil's attendance is really strong. However, we must continue this excellent work so even more pupils attend school more often. Evidence is clear in that pupils who attend school more often have a greater feeling of belonging, have strong friendships with other pupils, make faster progress both academically and socially.

Collaboration:

- In January we held a Trust wide staff training day which included all staff from across our schools meeting to share information, expertise and resources to take the best of what each school does and share it across all others. At primary and secondary phases, this included work related to schemes of work and assessment. Teaching Assistants also met as a group to share expertise on supporting pupils.
- We are also continuing to review the contracts that schools hold across the Trust to procure the best value for money possible, providing more funds for education. This includes waste disposal, energy suppliers and the purchase of resources.

Inclusion:

- In line with the new "Ofsted Toolkit" and the introduction of the judgement on "Inclusion" that will be made during the inspection processes, Schools have been reviewing their current provision. As you know, there is already excellent practice in all of our schools.
- We have also been continuing our work with Norfolk County Council regarding the introduction of additional Specialist Resource Bases within our Trust. I am hoping to share some exciting news with you very soon or in the next half termly update.

Specialist Resource Bases (SRBs) are dedicated provisions within mainstream schools that provide additional, specialist support for pupils with particular special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), while allowing them to remain part of their local school community. In simple terms, an SRB sits within a mainstream school, but offers extra expertise, staffing, and resources tailored to specific needs.

As education continues to evolve, and the governments planned are made clearer through the publication of the recent White Paper and all schools face increasing expectations and challenges. By working collectively as a Trust, we are better placed to respond to changes in the education system, manage pressures on schools, and plan confidently for the future—while protecting what makes each school unique.

We understand that parents and carers want reassurance that changes and Trust-level work are undertaken for the right reasons. I want to be clear that our aim is not to remove a school's identity or community focus, but to strengthen it through shared expertise, partnership, and support. Thank you for your continued support. We value the role parents and carers play in our school communities, and we remain committed to open communication. If you have any questions about the work of Synergy MAT, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Alastair Ogle
CEO