

# Yorkshire Learning Trust *Announcement*



We are delighted to confirm that the merger of South York Multi-Academy Trust and The STAR Multi-Academy Trust has been approved by the Department for Education.



This means that work can now continue apace to deliver our exciting new venture, Yorkshire Learning Trust.

Our aspiration is that our new merged Trust is in place for the beginning of next academic year, but there is much to do. As ever, our most important focus through the transition to Yorkshire Learning Trust will be our continued focus on the education and wellbeing of all of our young people, though we will of course take opportunities to enhance this further through the new collaborations and partnerships our new Trust family brings even before the formal merger date.

Our new Trust will consist of 17 partner schools, approximately 7000 students and 1000 staff.



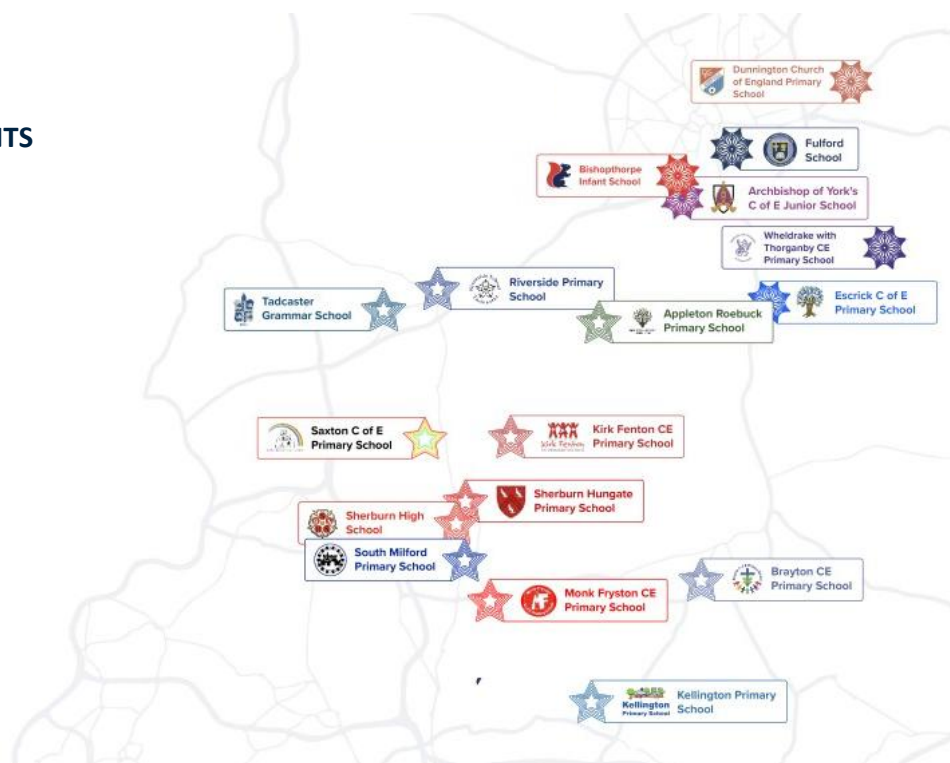
**17 SCHOOLS**



**7000 STUDENTS**



**1000 STAFF**



For Yorkshire Learning Trust, our vision and values will be continuous from our legacy organisations and always focused on our young people and staff, aspiring for great outcomes and life chances through high quality inclusive education.



# A Values and Principles Led Organisation



**Inclusion**



**Aspiration**



**Collaboration**



**Integrity**

With inclusion as a core value we will really look to secure **BELONGING** as a key theme as we move towards the launch of Yorkshire Learning Trust. It is vital that every single young person and adult continues to have a strong sense of personal identity and feels that they belong as part of their local school community. But we also want to build on this and harness the power of collaboration so that people also feel part of something bigger, an organisation which works with its community at all levels to ensure the best possible outcomes.

## Built on Core Values

### Inclusion

We are passionate about meeting the needs of every child and young person in our care. We work hard to remove barriers to success and overcome disadvantage. We embrace the diversity of our communities and promote distinctiveness and identity of our schools and those within them.

### Aspiration

Our schools have high expectations of all within them. We offer opportunities to excel and fulfil our potential. We strive to be the change we wish to see in the world. We work to become our best self.

### Collaboration

Our schools work in equal partnership with one another. We believe deep and meaningful collaboration gives us the opportunity to develop ourselves and our practices, bringing about innovation and enhancing our learning community.

### Integrity

Our Trust has a crucial role to play in wider society. We have a social responsibility to serve our community first and foremost. We always use our resources responsibly and transparently. We work to Nolan principles.





The leadership of Yorkshire Learning Trust, will utilise the skills and experience of STAR and SYMAT, allowing for continuity and evolution:

- 🌀 Members and Trustees (who oversee all that we do) will be drawn from those that already exist bringing a great range of skills and experience
- 🌀 Chief Executive Officer: Ian Yapp (current CEO, STAR)
- 🌀 Director of Education: Steve Lewis (current CEO, SYMAT)
- 🌀 Chief Finance Officer: Melissa Boyes (current CFOO, STAR)
- 🌀 Chief Operations Officer: Sam Bradford (current CFO, SYMAT)

In our new Trust, every school will be an equal partner, our strength coming from our commitment to each other. Every school will continue to have its own individual identity and ethos under the over-arching Yorkshire Learning Trust vision. The Trust will have a continued central focus on collaboration at all levels to drive school improvement and deliver clear accountability throughout the organisation.

## What comes next?

Now that we have a decision from the DfE we can progress our detailed planning, looking at how YLT will work on a day-to-day basis and ensuring that every decision is shaped to support our people – whether our students or our staff.

Staff teams will of course have regular briefings and updates and in due course (probably around June), we will work alongside our union colleagues on transfer of staff and consideration of policies etc.

For all of our stakeholders, we will continue to provide regular, timely updates on progress towards the formation of Yorkshire Learning Trust.

This is an exciting time for our Trusts and schools and a fantastic opportunity for us to further strengthen our partnerships as a group of like-minded education providers by formalising the relationships between us.

**Ian Yapp**  
CEO  
The STAR Multi Academy Trust

**Nick Sheppard**  
Chair of Trustees  
The STAR Multi Academy Trust

**Steve Lewis**  
CEO  
South York Multi-Academy Trust

**Ian Dolben**  
Chair of Trustees  
South York Multi Academy Trust

