

Trust Schools – A guide for Parents

What is a trust school?

A trust school is:

- A government funded foundation school supported by a charitable trust
- The trust is made up of the school and partners working together for the benefit of the school

A trust school will:

- Deliver a full curriculum for your child
- Continue to be inspected by Ofsted
- Manage its own assets, that means land and buildings
- Employ its own staff
- Set its own admissions arrangements
- Choose which partners to work with, for example other schools, businesses, business foundations, colleges, universities or community groups

A trust school is not:

- An academy
- A grant maintained school
- An independent school
- Involved in an admissions 'free-for-all'
- Funded differently from community schools
- Run by businesses
- Separated from the local authority
- Able to sell its land without going through the proper processes
- Able to avoid local authority re-organisation plans

Benefits

Depending on the kind of trust, its aims and the nature of its partners it may:

- Enable schools/partners to raise standards of attainment for children
- Enable schools/partners to share thoughts and ideas about how to improve the school to benefit learners
- Enable schools/partners to share resources and expertise to give better value for money
- Provide opportunities for learning in a variety of environments beyond the school
- Offer additional enrichment activities to your child both within the curriculum and beyond
- Be able to work with its partners to enhance the way it attends to your child's well being
- Enable schools/partner to work more closely with the local community
- Enable the school/partners to access additional charitable funds
- Enable schools/partners to deliver a more diverse curriculum