

CONNECT NEWSLETTER

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Nene
Education
Trust



CEO Summer Update

As I reflect on another year of Nene Education Trust, I am so proud of the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the education of the young people in our schools. Your commitment to raising aspirations, fostering character development, and creating a positive environment is truly commendable.

Results continue to improve in our primaries – due in no small part to the close attention we have paid to assessment, and the additional support given to those children that need it. This has been reflected in the Ofsted inspections that two of our schools have navigated this year, confirming that we are continuing to move in the right direction.

To ensure that we offer the absolute best to the children in our school, we have continued to partner with ‘market leaders’ and have built strong relationships with Kelly’s Heroes in our suicide awareness project which has received national recognition, and the attention of the Department for Education.

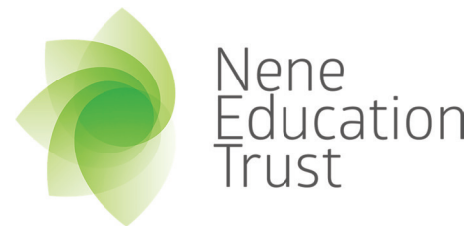
Manor School was chosen by Bounce Forward and the Harry Kane Foundation to pilot a national programme focusing on children’s mental health and wellbeing and, more recently, we have been working closely with Athletic Elite who enable children to develop their physical, mental, and emotional skills through sport. Autism Education Trust are also working alongside schools to further the education of children with additional needs and this sits well alongside our already comprehensive inclusion offer.

The children in our schools have also been collaborating – with each other! We have seen some incredible performances from our young people in the form of a wonderful and festive Christmas Concert and again this week with our Summer concert where children from each of our eight schools showcased their talents to mark the end of the academic year.

One of our greatest collaborations this year has been in the form of the Whole Child Project – where the children were empowered in the role of author, scriptwriter, composer, choreographer and producer to create an amazing anthology of short plays, supported by their teachers and Silhouette Youth Theatre.

In secondary, our Manor Together project has enabled us to reengage with the local community to drive the school forward and raise the aspirations of the children in the school and drive positive change.

We have so much in our Trust to be proud of and I would like to thank you all for the significant contribution you make each day. I hope you have a wonderful Summer break – and look forward to seeing you in the new academic year when we will continue to improve the lives of the children entrusted to our care.



New Senior Leadership Team at Manor School

The Trust has announced an array of new appointments within the Senior Leadership Team at Manor School.

The introduction of a revised and strengthened Senior Leadership Team at the secondary school includes the appointment of Adam Crawte, who is the new Interim Principal at Manor School – a position he will hold until the end of December 2024. A robust recruitment process is underway to appoint a new permanent Principal, who will take up the leadership position in January 2025.

Adam Crawte has taught in Northamptonshire schools for more than 20 years, holding several senior leadership posts during his career. The experienced History teacher’s most recent post was Director of School Improvement at Brooke Weston Trust, where he led its five secondary schools, to raise the level of challenge and progression across different subjects.

In September, he will be joined by two new senior leaders with Emma Taylor appointed as Manor School’s Senior Vice Principal. Trust leaders highlighted how Emma’s extensive experience of curriculum and pastoral leadership, as well as expertise in assessment, teaching and learning, behaviour, professional development and student leadership, made her the ideal choice for the role.

New Senior Assistant Principal, Charlene Camfield will complete the secondary school’s new Senior Leadership Team structure. Having worked in a variety of secondaries for more than 20 years, she was drawn to Manor because the school corresponds with her core teaching values of inclusion, equality, respect and responsibility and she firmly believes “every child matters and with the correct mindset there are no barriers to achievement”.

Chris Hill, CEO of Nene Education Trust said: “Following a period of challenge at Manor School, I am delighted to have secured such a strong team of people with the track record, personality, passion and determination to benefit and improve the education and life chances of all the students at our school. I am looking forward to working with Adam, Emma and Charlene to drive the school forward.”

Remaining at the school are Assistant Principals Claire Radd, Darren Carter and Ian Cooper.



Adam
Crawte



Emma
Taylor



Charlene
Camfield

Does your school have some incredible news? Staff successes? School events?
Contact vbrennan@neneeducationtrust.org.uk to be featured in the next NET Connect Newsletter

New Principal at Newton Road School

Liz Turner is the recently appointed new Principal at Newton Road School.

With more than 27 years’ extensive education experience Liz has taken the helm at the school. Previously the deputy head at a large primary school in neighbouring Bedfordshire, where she was also Head of Inclusion, Liz is enjoying her new role as Principal at Newton Road. Nene Education Trust CEO, Chris Hill, said: “Liz Turner has exceptional experience working within education and is the perfect person to take Newton Road School forward with her focus on ensuring children and staff can succeed and plans to help improve results at the school.”

Liz, who is a mother of three and a grandmother of four, is delighted to join the Nene Education Trust family of schools and plans to further forge strong relationships with families and the local community, to help children succeed and aims to improve results at the school.

She said: “The Trust’s values, their educational outlook and what they want, perfectly aligns with what I want, I could see real potential in Newton Road School, and wanted to be part of it. I am all about developing and supporting the whole child. Our children will be moving into secondary school and life in a big world, and I want them to have all the skills that will make them successful.

“When it comes to results, what we need is an upward trend, which ultimately means I need to make sure our children are happy, safe and want to learn. If we can make those things happen, then everything will fall into place and results will improve.”

Originally starting her career as a hairdresser, the newly appointed Principal switched to working in education in 1996 where she predominately worked in early years settings, managing nurseries and crèches.

Seeing a teacher with a class of Year 2 pupils inspired her to enter the teaching profession. She studied for her degree while working as an unqualified teacher, studying for GCSEs at night school, all while raising her three children, to achieve her ambition to become a teacher.

On her future plans, she added: “Looking ahead, I would like to have a more creative curriculum at Newton Road that engages pupils so that they want to come to school and learn. There will be challenges; however, the school staff are fantastic, they’re an amazing team and have welcomed me with open arms.



“I cannot do anything without working with the families of Newton Road who are vitally important to me. I am used to working with families to support their children, to ensure we’re all pulling in the same direction. I would like to build my relationship with our families and have that open, honest, kind and professional conversation to develop their child in our school.

“Ultimately, it is all about relationships. If you build relationships with the families and the community, the staff and the children, everything else will fall into place.”

10 minutes with...



Who are you and what do you do – what are some of your day-to-day duties/key responsibilities?

My name is Matthew Hurren and I am Assistant Principal at Manor School. My areas of responsibility have included curriculum, reporting and assessment, and since 2007 I have been responsible for producing the whole school timetable.

How long have you worked at NET?

My appointment pre-dated NET! I was appointed by Paul Wingfield with effect from January 1st 1990 so have worked at Manor School for almost 35 years.

What do you enjoy about your work?

Some of you may recognise the quote - ‘Another day of challenge and opportunity’ - but in reality, I think that is what keeps us all coming back. I think it is our job to help students be the best version of themselves and although it makes you feel old, the best thing about this job is when a student you have not seen for many years turns up, say at a parents evening with their own children, and tells you about their successes. A few years back we did the ‘What does a Manor School student look like 5 years after leaving’ thing, and for me that is what the job is about - helping young people develop into happy, successful and contributing members of society. I think that working with young people helps you to keep a ‘young’ outlook on life and as my colleague says, no two days are ever the same!

What do you like to do outside of work?

I enjoy gardening and have two allotments which keep me busy. In my retirement I am looking forward to being able to spend more time fishing, reading and spending time with family.

Favourite city/destination?

Hard to decide between Florence and Lucca in Tuscany, but I think Lucca comes out just as favorite. Renaissance architecture, great food, and the birthplace of Puccini. Can’t beat it.

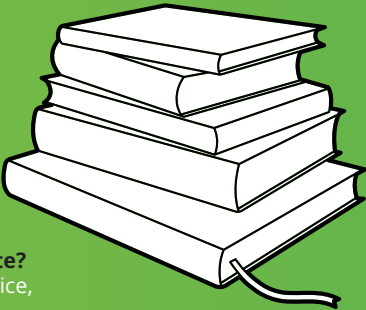


Favourite food?

I don’t really have a favourite food as such. For me it is more about the food and the location - pasta in Italy, fish and chips by the sea or roast dinner with the family when it is cold outside!

Favourite book?

I would say ‘Making Good Progress’ by Daisy Christodoulou but I doubt anyone would believe me. I am particularly fond of the Cormoran Strike series of novels by Robert Galbraith (aka JK Rowling).



Favourite saying or quote?

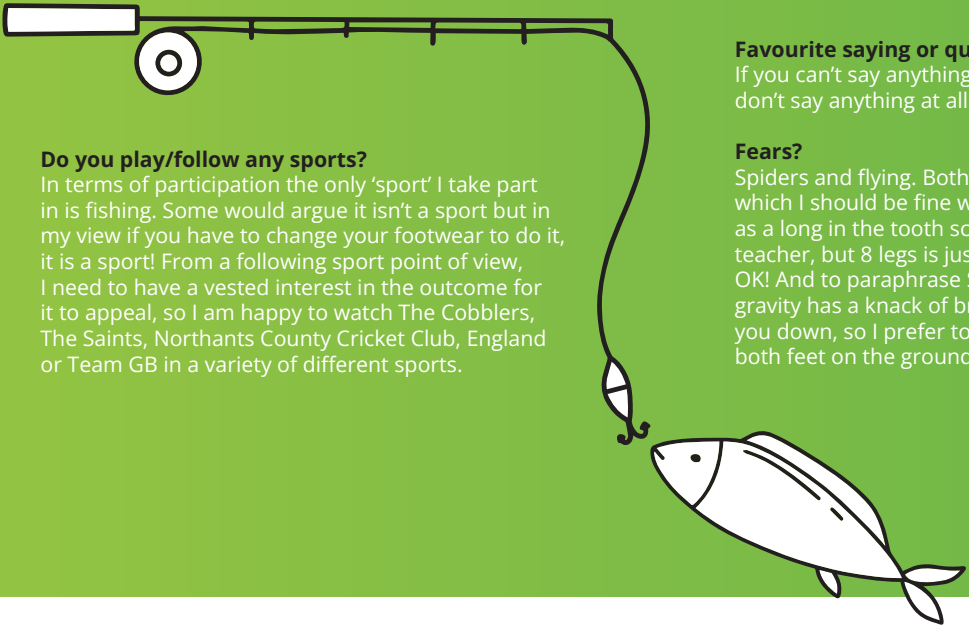
If you can’t say anything nice, don’t say anything at all.

Fears?

Spiders and flying. Both of which I should be fine with as a long in the tooth science teacher, but 8 legs is just not OK! And to paraphrase Sir Isaac, gravity has a knack of bringing you down, so I prefer to keep both feet on the ground.

Do you play/follow any sports?

In terms of participation the only ‘sport’ I take part in is fishing. Some would argue it isn’t a sport but in my view if you have to change your footwear to do it, it is a sport! From a following sport point of view, I need to have a vested interest in the outcome for it to appeal, so I am happy to watch The Cobblers, The Saints, Northants County Cricket Club, England or Team GB in a variety of different sports.



Chester House

On Friday 21st June, Nene Education Trust took over Chester House for a day of historical fun! Children from all Trust primary schools engaged in a Trust Takeover of the Chester House Estate recently engaging in a variety of activities. They were given a tour of the site and the ARC by archaeologists and archivists who explained the history of the site and the local area and how the Romans settled along the River Nene.

It was a beautiful day in the valley and the children examined and cleaned finds, looked at 'digs' (where they saw the remains of the settlers and their belongings) and tour the ARC (Archaeology Research Centre) that holds thousands of artifacts from around the county, including a beautiful Roman mosaic floor that was discovered at Stanwick Lakes.



A colourful day at Woodford

Children at Woodford CofE Primary School took part in their annual Colour Run.

Lee Donovan, Principal, said: 'What another wonderful event and a huge thank you to so many people. Firstly, our incredible community for supporting our event, it was great to see so many people there. Secondly, to all of the families who helped their children raise funds for today, it is hugely appreciated. Also, thank you to all the staff, children and volunteers for making this such a memorable day once again.'



Annual Values Day at Redwell

This year's Values Day at Redwell Primary was another Trust extravaganza that involved parents and carers, staff , children and the local community.



Healthy Schools

Stanwick Primary and Newton Road Schools were awarded the **Bronze Healthy School Award** recently after meeting very specific qualification criteria.



Residential Retreats

Schools in the Trust have been on their annual residential recently – **exploring, climbing, rafting, scaling** and **relaxing**. Here are some photos of the schools enjoying their adventures.



Woodford outdoor area

Staff and children of Woodford C of E Primary School and Nursery were very pleased to unveil **their new outdoor area recently**. The area has been looking a bit tired and unloved and so the Nene Education Trust estates team and Edspace set about improving it. Now the children have access to a wonderful mud play area, construction area, water play and stage to perform on.



HOWZAT!

Two Manor students recently visited NCCC to collect bags of cricket equipment donated to the school at the T20 match during half term.

With thanks to Joel Beeney for organising this opportunity for the school.

GET IN TOUCH

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