

Message from Roger Alston, Chair of Board of Directors

Following the decision of our Board of Directors last week to formally move to the final stage of the process to bring St Hild's into our trust, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all parents/carers and their families to NEAT. We are planning for the transfer to take place on the target date of 1st April.



We believe that the support our schools can give each other, as well as the services provided by the trust's central team, will give all of our young people a bright future.

I'm looking forward to the time when it's possible to visit in person to talk to young people and their families, as well as the staff at St Hild's, and to explore this future. Meanwhile, I would like to welcome you all to NEAT and look forward to working together to enable our young people to succeed.

Message from Debi Bailey, CEO

I hope that the opportunities over recent months to find out more about our trust have been helpful, although I am sorry that we have not been able to do this face-to-face.



I was delighted to receive questions from pupils at St Hild's about the trust and what becoming part of NEAT will mean for them. I've responded directly to them with a video message.

As you know, I have chaired the school's Interim Executive Board (IEB) for the last year. The IEB will be disbanded when St Hild's joins NEAT as the trust has its own governance structure. This will include a Local Governing Committee

specifically for St Hild's, which will include parent representatives. We'll be sharing more information about this after Easter and encourage you to find out more about how you can make a difference for all young people at St Hild's.

In the meantime, I want to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the IEB for everything you have done to support St Hild's over the last few difficult weeks, and indeed months, during the coronavirus pandemic. Whether you have supported learning at home or you have supported your child to attend school, you have been the difference in making sure their education has continued the best that it could in these challenging times.



Although it will take a few days for all pupils to settle back into the routine of being in school again, I'm sure – with your support and the dedication of the fantastic staff at St Hild's – that they will soon feel that they've never been away.

Our plans for St Hild's

As we begin to look ahead to St Hild's joining the trust, we'd like to share a little more information about our plans.

On return to school after Easter, you will see some small improvements to the school exterior and we are excited for further changes to come in the summer!

We have been working alongside senior leaders for some time now and are confident that the curriculum is well planned to support all learners on their return to school.

Our recently appointed Lead for School Improvement – Secondary, Carol Davison, will continue to work alongside school leaders at St Hild’s – and our other secondary school in Newcastle upon Tyne - as we carry on the journey of school improvement. You can read more about Carol below.

The most exciting thing for us though is that collaboration between St Hild’s and Benfield School. We all know how powerful it is to work with colleagues and opportunities to work with and learn from each other will ensure that our schools offer a fantastic education.



Introducing Carol Davison, School Improvement Lead - Secondary

We would like to introduce you to Carol, who has a key role in supporting St Hild’s and our other secondary school.

Carol is the former headteacher of St Cuthbert’s Catholic High School in Newcastle. Her unshakeable drive and high expectations took St Cuthbert’s to an “Outstanding” Ofsted judgement.

She brings a wealth of experience to the trust as we continue to strive to provide the best possible education to our young people.



Carol Davison, NEAT Lead for Secondary School Improvement

Looking ahead to the future: Making A Difference Together



We have started some exciting conversations to plan how the trust will move forwards over the next 3 years. Pupils, parents/carers and staff at St Hild’s have a key role to play as you will all be part of that future.

All of our schools will soon be engaging with families to find out what they are doing well and what you would like to see in the future.

We are also interested to hear what your aspirations are for yourselves, your families and our trust. Please look out for ways of joining in the conversation - this is how we will **make a difference together**.