



Dear parent/carers,

Thank you for choosing a school which is a member of **Equals Trust**. We welcome you and your family and look forward to a wonderful education journey together. We hope you and your child will be very happy with us and that we will be able to work together to achieve the best we possibly can for you.

**Equals Trust** is a multi-academy trust comprising 16 primary schools in the Rushcliffe, Gedling and Broxtowe areas. Being geographically close means that the schools can work together on developing good practice, sharing ideas and school improvement priorities. It also means we can provide excellent cost-effective services for the schools through joint commissioning. The Leadership Group of Head Teachers organise school improvement and is involved in the strategic direction of the Trust. This is unique to **Equals Trust** and means that decision making is consulted on at all levels, with school leaders, local governing bodies and their communities maintaining their school's ethos and unique identity. They also have a wider perspective through mutual accountability and a strong collaborative approach. This enables everyone to have ownership of the strategic direction of **Equals Trust** and a strong sense of belonging. We hope you will enjoy being part of the **Equals Trust** family.

Everyone involved with **Equals Trust** believes passionately that collaborative working raises educational standards and improves life chances for the children within the trust partnership. Teaching and Learning are at the centre of all we do, providing an exciting curriculum and enrichment opportunities that challenge and excite them; for example each of our schools is part of a British Council global education project 'Stories of a lifetime' linking and exchanging with schools in Tanzania. We share expertise and great practice, providing professional development and the resources to achieve this; for example through joint curriculum INSET days.

The schools work on curriculum development together, but they retain the essence of what is distinctive to their school and local community. We strongly believe in providing a wide range of enrichment activities to the children in our care in addition to a national curriculum to ensure that children make the best possible progress and social development. Through our EQT Improvement Planning process we are always looking for innovative ways to enhance our pupils' experiences; for example an e-safety project that produces a regular e-magazine, a maths hub with Southwell Minster Teaching School and an iPad maths project organised by our Distinguished Apple Educator. We hope your child will be involved in our inter-trust activities including storytelling, football, Boccia and frisbee competitions and a whole Trust singing extravaganza at the Albert Hall.

Our Governance Structure ensures there is support and accountability in all areas at all levels. This includes Local Governing Bodies and Head Teachers at a local school level through to overall Board Level and ultimately the Members who ensure the principles of our philosophy are the basis for all decisions. As parents you will be asked for your views on your school and consulted on areas of your child's education. On occasion we will also ask for your support in shaping the direction of **Equals Trust**.

We hope this has given you some insight into **Equals Trust** and the exciting advantages for your school of being a member. Please see our website : [www.equalstrust.org](http://www.equalstrust.org) for any further information or contact our office in Keyworth.

Best Regards

Phil Palmer  
(CEO)

Peter Foale  
(Chair of the Board)

