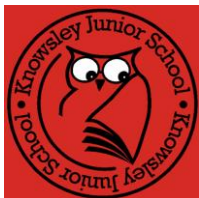




The Dovestone Learning Partnership is a Co-operative Trust comprising of eight local schools:

Christ Church CE Primary School
Delph Primary School
Diggle Primary School
Friezland Primary School
Greenfield St Mary's CE Primary School
Knowsley Junior School
St Agnes CE Primary School
St Thomas', Leesfield CE Primary School



This leaflet has been written to provide you with some information about the partnership. Also check out our website at www.dovestonelearningpartnership.co.uk

What is a Co-operative Trust?

Our Trust is group of schools that have made a commitment to working together. It is a legal arrangement. In order to set up the Trust, our community schools (Delph, Diggle and Knowsley) changed their designation from Community School to Foundation School. They do, however, remain local authority maintained schools. Friezland Primary School became a Foundation School in May 2022 and formally joined the Trust after being an associate member.

The Dovestone Learning Partnership is a Co-operative Trust model. The Co-operative Trust links schools together mutually using co-operative principles, which re-enforce our school's ethos, and allows stakeholders to become members of the Trust.

Background Information

The schools continue to teach the national curriculum, receive funding through the Local Authority, follow the schools' admissions code and OFSTED attend as per statutory requirements. Each school's governing body is still responsible for running the school and directly employ staff, not the local authority. School assets (grounds and buildings) are held 'in trust' by the Partnership rather than the local authority. On a day-to-day basis, there is little change for the pupils and the school community.

There is lots more information about the DLP on our website which you will find at www.dovestonelearningpartnership.co.uk



So Why Did We Decide to Change?

The chief reasons for change are to build on and re-enforce our commitment to our community, to continue to improve the quality of, and raise standards in, education and increase life chances and opportunities for our pupils.

We believe that by working more closely together, we can be more successful schools.

Trust status helps us to establish strong, long-term partnerships with key partners who help increase resources and opportunities for staff and pupils, at a time when the role and function of Local Education Authorities is being greatly and rapidly reduced.

We feel that we will be better able to serve our local school communities by working together to raise standards and aspirations, increase opportunities and provide greater social cohesion.



Our Vision

That we are leading the way in education for Oldham children and young people enabling them to enjoy learning and achieve well. To achieve our vision we will ensure:

- The community is passionate about learning.
- Everyone's point of view is heard and appreciated.
- Each school's curriculum is engaging, inspiring and challenging for all learners.
- Children and young people experience excellent learning and teaching and experience a rich programme of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities; ensuring them to thrive and flourish within a vibrant, happy, inclusive and safe learning environment.
- The adults employed to work with them are valued and challenged to be the best they can be.
- We develop capable, independent, lifelong learners prepared for global citizenship in the twenty-first century.

Our Values

Dovestone Learning Partnership is founded on the values of **respect, trust and solidarity** together with a **passion** for education. For our church schools this is also embedded in the Christian faith.

We are a group of schools that celebrate our individual character. Our schools may have different systems, pedagogies and cultures, but we understand the need to focus on learning and the impact of teaching to improve outcomes for the children and young people in our schools. Together we will endeavour to ensure that the children and young people in our schools receive a rich variety of learning. This commitment to developing a high quality curriculum, delivered by well trained, effective teaching and support staff, and the sharing of expertise is at the heart of our vision.

So... What Do We Do?

Peer Review - working with an external consultant, headteachers review one another's schools and identify key areas of development and strengths that can be shared across the partnership.

Networks - subject leaders across our schools, meet to share skills and expertise and further develop their subject/aspect specialisms.

CPD - a whole range of CPD opportunities have been arranged to meet DLP priorities. Each year we hold an event for staff across the partnership to come together on a common theme. Events have covered well-being, behaviour, SEND. In addition we have held programmes for Teaching Assistants and Lunchtime Staff. Teachers have received training in Literacy/Writing, metacognition and ICT to support curriculum development just to name a few of the opportunities available.

Working Parties - we have three working parties: Closing the Gap, Well-being and Enrichment Activities. Run by headteachers, these working parties are responsible for ensuring that the activities we do support our vision and purpose and focus on our partnership priorities.

Extra Activities - we have supported a number of wider curricular events for the pupils, from a chance to participate in our music festival, a literacy festival, maths Times Table challenges, sports competitions, opportunities to try out different activities such as archery, and inter-school competitions such as the DLP Spelling Bee and the Business Challenge. We also have a pupil Super Council who meet termly to discuss topics such as transition, social media and bullying.



'Stronger together for our pupils'

How Can You Get Involved?

Our Partnership is what is known as a membership trust and we are keen to build an active group of members who can contribute to the DLP and support us in our vision and aims. Pupils, staff and parents/carers are all automatically members of our co-operative.

For our potential community partners, we would love to hear from you and look at how we could work together or engage in any sponsorship activities.

Here are some examples of the benefits of being involved:

- The opportunity to contribute to the quality of education and raising of standards across the DLP schools, and supporting your local school in delivering the best education for our pupils.
- Nurturing of young talent and developing their skills.
- A chance to be involved in transforming the learning experiences of children and the community.
- Training opportunities, new friendships and networks.
- Support curriculum developments to ensure that learners are prepared for a working life.
- Access to new contributors to businesses and community groups.
- There is also a chance to join the Partnership Board itself.



Meet the headteachers of the Dovestone Learning Partnership Schools

Contact Us

If you are interested in any aspect of the DLP – community representation, sponsoring our activities, becoming a partner – please get in touch with the headteacher at one of our schools or Julie Bowdidge, who is the DLP Facilitator on juliebowdidge@googlemail.com or tel 07515 257389