

PLYMOUTH CAST NEWSLETTER – 31 January 2017

Dear Heads, Governors, Staff and Volunteers,

In this newsletter, providing a regular update on developments across CAST, the focus will be on the:

1. Changes to the Senior Leadership Team
2. Update on OFSTED Inspections
3. Buildings and Facilities
4. Budgets and Service Level Agreements
5. Thank you
6. Date of Next Newsletter: 8 February 2017

1. Changes to the Senior Leadership Team

- (a) John Mannix, Chief Executive Officer who was placed on special leave in October 2016, will be leaving Plymouth CAST on the 11 March 2017.
- (b) The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) who will take Plymouth CAST forward comprises our Interim Executive Officers Lisa Mannall and Kate Griffin, together with Marcus Taylor, Chief Operating Officer who joined CAST on 23 January 2017. Future newsletters will be issued by the SLT.

2. OFSTED

(a) Expectations

It has become clear to everyone who has been inspected that “the bar has been raised by Ofsted” since September 2016. There is now a higher expectation on schools to achieve “better than expected progress” for all pupils. As Plymouth CAST we are committed to developing appropriate structures and support mechanisms, including the sharing of best practice between CAST schools, to enable you all to achieve the standards expected of you and your pupils in a fast-changing world.

(b) Congratulations

The Board wishes to send well deserved congratulations to all schools graded “Good” under the new inspection criteria. Please identify examples of best practice to share with your colleagues.

To those schools graded “Requires Improvement”. You have received positive feedback on many aspects of your work. We are confident you are establishing firm foundations on which to build and inspire your pupils to greater success in the future.

To those schools graded “Inadequate”, please continue to strive for excellence. We are committed to you receiving the appropriate support and guidance to ensure that all pupils receive the challenge and support they need to make better than expected progress.

(c) OFSTED Inspections March 2016 to 27 January 2017

Due to OFSTED restrictions on reporting, we cannot communicate grades for schools inspected in January 2017, until their reports are published. Below you will find a table listing the schools who have been inspected between March 2016 and 27 January 2017:

East

The Orchard Nursery**	Outstanding
St Mary's, Poole*	Requires improvement
St Mary's Marnhull	<i>Awaiting publication</i>
St Catherine's Bridport	<i>Awaiting publication</i>
St Mary's Dorchester	<i>Awaiting publication</i>

Central

St Marys Buckfast*	Good
St Joseph's Exmouth*	Requires improvement
Priory Torquay*	Inadequate
Queensway Torquay*	Inadequate
Our Lady's Barnstaple	<i>Awaiting publication</i>

West

St Joseph's, Plymouth*	Good
St John's Camborne *	Good
Keyham Barton Plymouth *	Requires improvement
St Mary's Penzance *	Inadequate
St Marys Bodmin	<i>Awaiting publication</i>
St Peters Plymouth	<i>Awaiting publication</i>
Cathedral Plymouth	<i>Awaiting publication</i>
Notre Dame Plymouth	<i>Awaiting publication</i>

* Indicates school inspected in October 2016

** Indicates school inspected in March 2016

3. Buildings and Facilities

Capital works and facilities management across CAST is currently delivered by Strictly Education. This contract will finish on 31 March 2017. The contract will run as normal up to and including that date; any open orders or work still in progress on that date will continue under transitional arrangements on a case by case basis. CAST Support are in the final stages of negotiating a new contract with a new service provider. It is hoped to announce the award of this contract before the end of February in plenty of time for commencement on 1 April 2017.

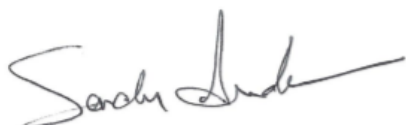
4. Budgeting and Service Level Agreements

Budget setting for the next Academy Financial Year is upon us. When considering Service Level Agreements (SLA) schools are reminded that SLA's for both Human Resources and Finance support must be placed with CAST support from 1 September 2017. Where this is not contractually possible, or contracts expire before 1 September 2017, then the switch should be at the earliest possible opportunity.

5. Thank you

Thank you to everyone who is working hard to provide a safe supportive learning environment in which the children in our care can flourish and achieve.

6. Date of Next newsletter: Wednesday 8 February 2017



Sandy Anderson, Chair
For and on behalf of the CAST Board

Distribution:

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