



# The Cornovii Trust

## NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Carers, Colleagues and Students

Our multi academy trust of five local schools is now just over a year old and during that short time we have achieved an awful lot. You can always find more details on our website [www.thecornoviitrust.org](http://www.thecornoviitrust.org) and you can follow us on social media, which will keep you updated on our work, various activities and job vacancies across all sites.

As you know, one of our key values and principles is collaboration. We see collaboration as the key driver for school improvement and raising standards. Our schools are working together to benefit our young people and staff, with the aim of making each organisation even better. This term alone, we have developed a phonics lead across the trust, to ensure that the support for children learning to read is of the highest standard. We are delivering leadership and teaching and learning programs to our staff from all schools, giving them the highest quality professional development using expertise from within our schools. The one collaborative project I am most excited by is linked to writing. Leaders have agreed our

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- Inspections
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### The Cornovii Cup Update

**CURRENT SCORE:**

**139**

Alsager School

**99**

Brine Leas School





writing expectations at every year group at primary level and staff are currently working on the transition from primary to secondary school when it comes to writing. This will have huge benefits for our pupils, it will ensure that when it comes to the teaching of writing and the expectations of staff, it will be as smooth as possible from leaving year 6 to joining year 7. Various other projects are also benefiting our young people, the forest schools curriculum for secondary pupils is being very well received by pupils at Alsager and Brine Leas. The 'Cornovii Justice Award' challenge has been embraced by our three primary schools and 'The Cornovii Cup' has introduced healthy competition across our two secondary schools. The current score is very tight – see the current leaderboard on page 1 of this newsletter.

However, all this collaborative working is only possible thanks to the outward facing and supportive approach of all our headteachers, leaders, governing bodies and staff. We are very fortunate to have such fantastic school leaders in place and such a talented and professional team of staff working within our schools.

Over the last 18 months or so, all of our schools have been inspected by Ofsted and I am pleased to say that all are graded as 'Good'. The most recent inspection was at Audlem St James in October and I would like to congratulate Mr Perry and all the school on such a glowing report. Audlem have also had a section 48 faith inspection this term, this is slightly different to Ofsted



but still a challenging and high stakes process. This too was a great success for the school and details will be published shortly.

There is still much more to do and we have great plans going forward. Our intention is to make all our great schools even better. I am really excited about the future for our young people and can see The Cornovii Trust going from strength to strength. We are currently planning to grow, with more local schools joining us over the next year and beyond, I will of course keep you informed of this when the time is right. By becoming larger, it will give us even more capacity and resources with which to work and improve our schools even more.

I would also like to urge all parents / carers to work with their child's school when it comes to attendance. You will have seen in the national press that school





attendance is a cause of serious concern across the country. Our schools are doing all they can to ensure children are in school and not missing out on learning but it needs the support of all parents and carers. An attendance record of 90% might sound good but it actually equates to 19 days or nearly 4 weeks of lost learning! I understand that each case of absence is different and needs to be treated on an individual basis. However, we all know that for young people to succeed, achieve their best, be better prepared for life and the world of work after school, it is through being in school, developing some resilience and attending as regularly as possible. Can I urge all parents and carers to please work with your child's school when it comes to attendance and encourage them to attend as much as possible, even if they are not feeling 100%.

As you will see from page 4 of this newsletter, we are currently looking to recruit Trustees, new people who can sit on our board as a volunteer and help shape the direction of our trust. We are especially keen to hear from people with a legal or human resources background to supplement the existing skills set on our board. Please do get in touch if you have experience in these areas and are interested in supporting our schools.

Many thanks for your continued support. I wish you and your families a very happy, peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2024.

Richard Middlebrook  
CEO The Cornovii Trust



## Volunteer Opportunity

# BECOME A TRUSTEE



Volunteering as a trustee is not only a meaningful way to contribute to your community, you will also get great insight into what is involved in the management of a Multi Academy Trust and gain extensive leadership skills.

### Trustees have three key roles:

- Set the strategic direction of the Trust
- Hold senior leadership to account for the educational performance of the organization
- and its pupils and the effective and efficient performance management of staff
- Oversee the trust's financial performance to ensure robust control and value for money

### What's involved?

Our Trust Board meets five times a year, trustees also meet for their committee meetings virtually four times a year.

To support you in your new governance role:

You will receive a complimentary copy of the induction guide Welcome to Governance, produced by the National Governance Association (NGA). Our subscriptions to the NGA and the Confederation of School Trusts (CST) provide a wide variety of training materials and discussion forums to support in your role.

Your board can also support your induction with a mentor scheme, pairing you up with a more experienced Trustee for your first term in role if required.

### Trustee applications

If you are interested in applying for the role please send your CV and a short expression of interest to [t.sanchez@thecornoviiitrust.org](mailto:t.sanchez@thecornoviiitrust.org). This application will be forwarded to our Chair of Trustees.

Please note candidates should live within reasonable travelling distance of the trust and/or have a link with the school/academy's local community.

**The Cornovii Trust  
is looking for  
potential  
candidates to join  
the Board of  
Trustees.**

Currently the trust is looking for individuals with a law, HR or senior business management background. We would specifically encourage applications from traditionally underrepresented groups.

**For more information,  
please call:**

**07506 984626**

Suitable candidates will be invited to interview and successful applicants will be recommended to Trustees and/or Members.

You will be informed of our decision and successful candidates will be asked to complete a DBS check.