

Summerhill School

Community Consultation Meeting

Welcome to our Consultation Evening

Order of the evening...

Summerhill presentation

Stour Vale Academy Trust
Presentation

Open forum Q&A

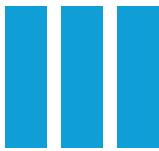
Individual Q&A





Chair of Governors

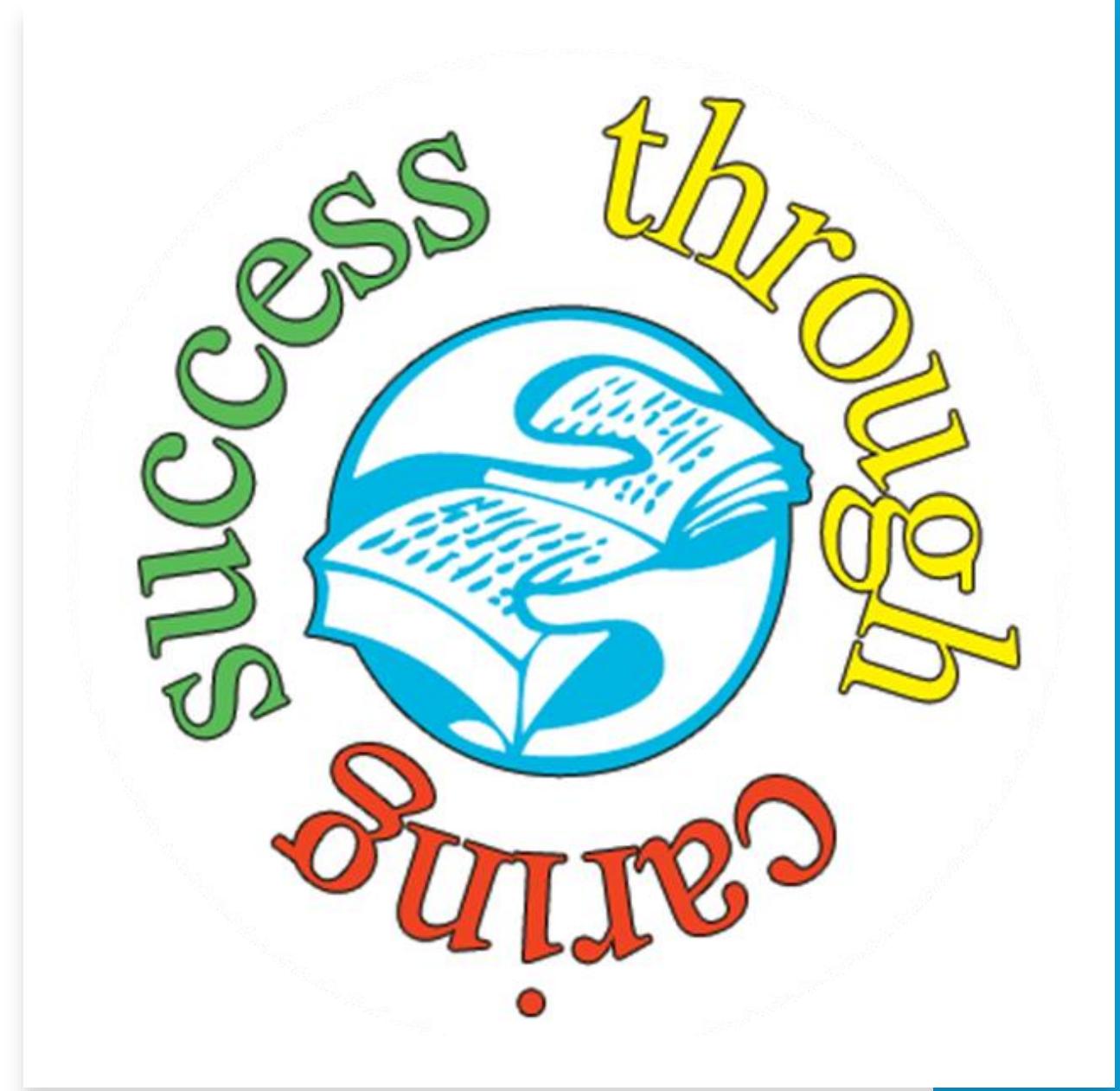
**Carol
Fletcher**





Headteacher

**Tim
Harris**



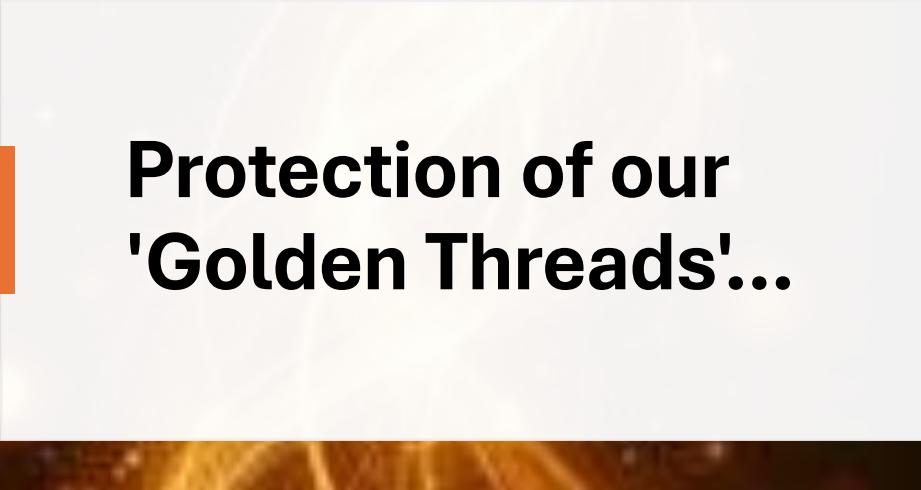


The
Journey...

Why now for Summerhill...

- We are doing ok.....inspirational dissatisfaction
- Local Authority offer
- 2 Secondary schools left in Local Authority
- Protect what we have.....develop areas for future generations



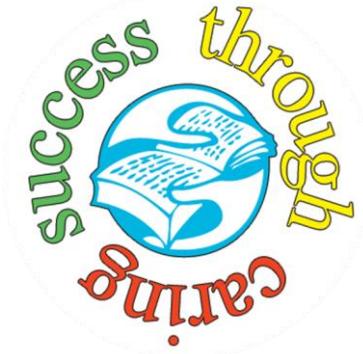


**Protection of our
'Golden Threads'...**



Culture
Relationships
Community School

Benefits of joining a MAT...



School improvement through collaboration

- Sharing best practice with other strong schools rather than working in isolation.
- Peer review, moderation, and joint curriculum development improve consistency and quality.
- Support in niche areas (SEND, safeguarding, attendance, behaviour).

Strategic leadership and succession planning

- Access to experienced executive leaders and trustees.
- Better planning for leadership succession, reducing risk when key staff leave.
- Continuity of vision beyond individual headteachers.



Benefits of joining a MAT...

Stronger financial stability

- Economies of scale: shared procurement (IT, catering, energy, insurance) lowers costs.
- Centralised services (HR, finance, payroll, legal) reduce admin burden on school leaders.
- Better ability to weather funding fluctuations or unexpected costs.

Senior leaders support

- Trust-level teams handle compliance, HR, estates, data protection, and governance.
- Headteachers can focus more on **teaching, learning, and strategic leadership** rather than paperwork!

Benefits of joining a MAT...



For a successful school, a MAT isn't about fixing weaknesses — it's about **future-proofing success**, sharing excellence, and reducing isolation

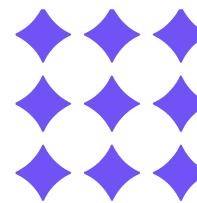
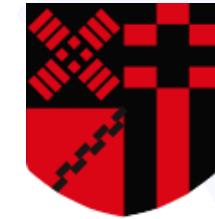
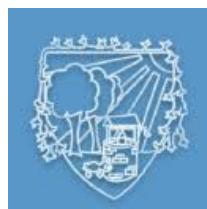
(Sir David Carter)

The Benchmark....

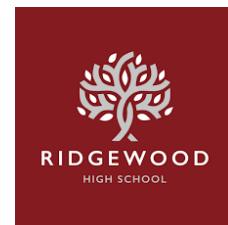
If it is not good enough
for my children, then it is
not good enough for
your children.

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STOUR VALE ACADEMY TRUST

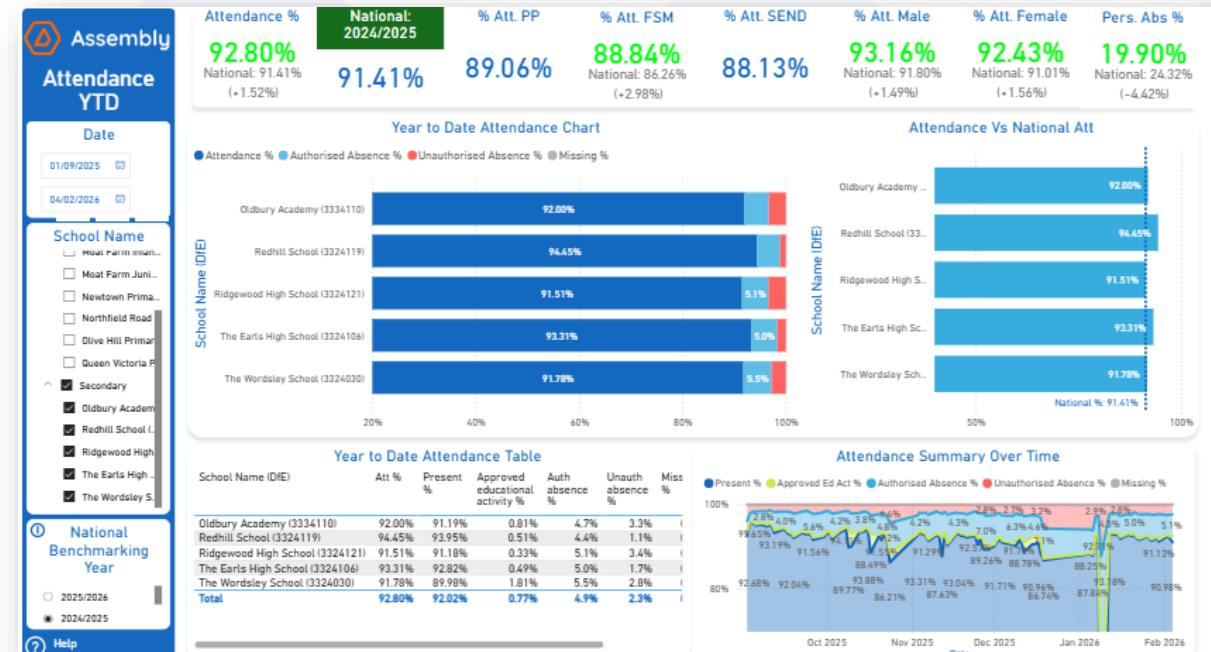


Should Summerhill School decide to become a member of Stour Vale...

- Summerhill will retain everything that makes it a unique school, highly valued by your community.
- Summerhill will continue to be led by your school's leadership team and governing body.
- Summerhill staff will remain Summerhill staff, with no obligation to work in a different school.
- Summerhill will go from strength to strength as part of a trust where continuous improvement is achieved, not through alignment, but by harnessing the power of genuine, effective collaboration.
- Summerhill will benefit from a comprehensive range of expert central services financed through a low centrally-retained spend.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- Peer-led reviews
- Leadership development
- Subject collaboration groups
- Ofsted preparation
- Professional learning groups
- School Showcases
- Stakeholder surveys
- School improvement tools
- Weekly visits from your Executive Leader
- Professional development for support staff
- Annual conference
- Worcester University Regional Training Hub
- Research projects: IRIS Connect and EEF
- Personal development opportunities
- Data analytics



WHAT CENTRAL SERVICES DO WE PROVIDE TO SUPPORT SCHOOL?

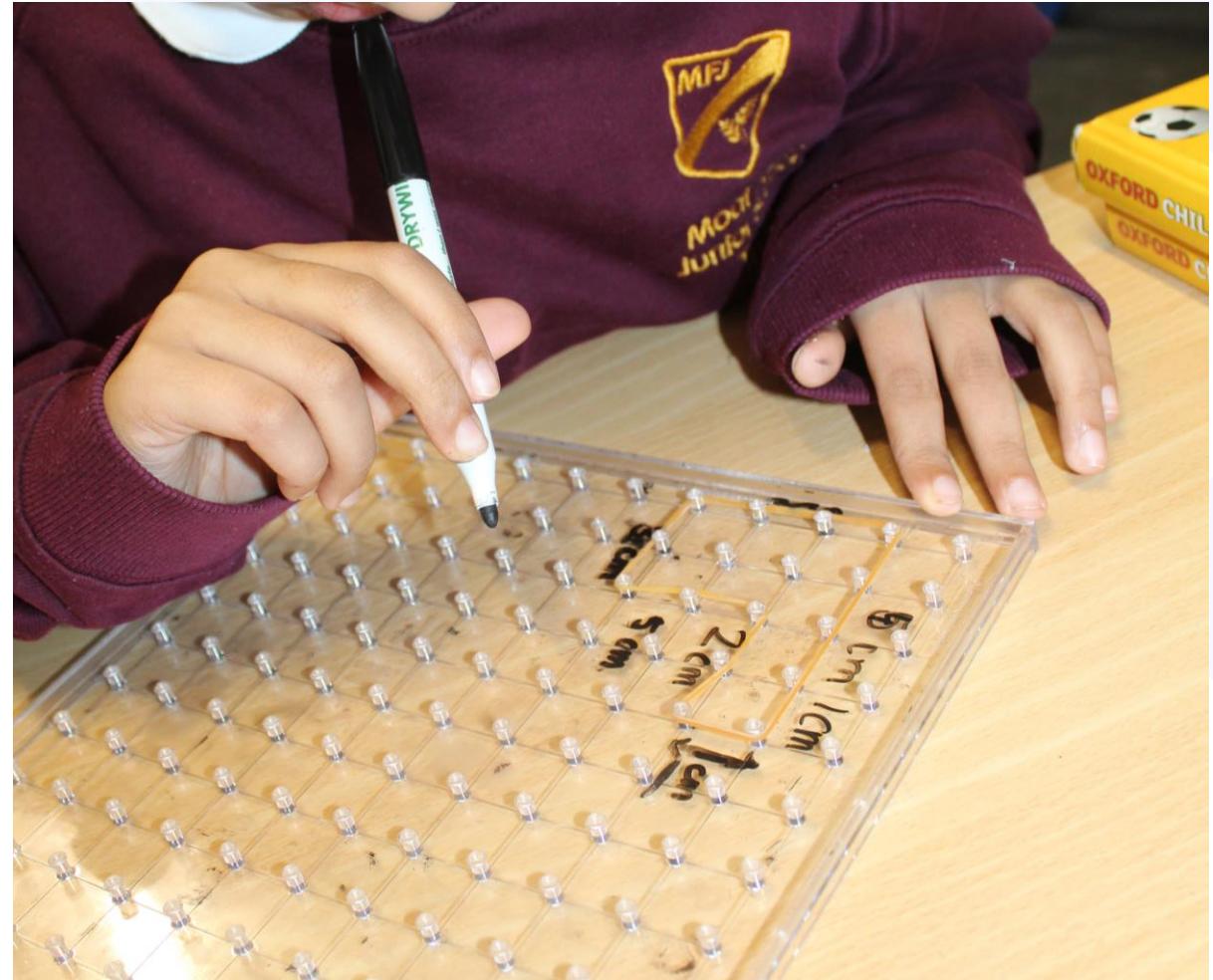
Our aim is to support schools by providing operational and financial services, enabling school leaders to focus on continuously improving teaching, learning, and outcomes for pupils.

- We have developed our comprehensive range of central services in collaboration with schools and settings.
- Our central services ease workload and free up time and capacity for school leaders to focus on the delivery of high-quality and inclusive education.
- The central team are experts in their own fields, whilst being committed to working together to provide the best all-round support and challenge to schools and settings.
- We are supported by external experts, who audit, advise and provide assurance of legal compliance to headteachers, local governors and the trust board.



SERVICES PROVIDED TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS

- Transactional HR services
- MyNewTerm – recruitment, applicant tracking
- Finance
- Health and Safety - compliance / risk management
- Estates management
- GDPR service – YourIG
- Governance – clerking, GovernorHub, training
- Information Technology
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Employee benefits – cycle to work scheme
- Professional learning groups and collaboration



PROCUREMENT AND ECONOMIES OF SCALE

Recent Examples

- IT Managed Service
- Broadband connections
- Office365 back up
- Refuse
- Bought-in catering services
- Energy procurement
- Applicant tracking/recruitment solutions
- Safeguarding software



STOUR VALE SCHOOLS: FROM GOOD TO EXEMPLARY...



A message from Bridget Phillipson

Dear Elizabeth,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Moat Farm Junior School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.



STOUR VALE SCHOOLS: FROM GOOD TO EXEMPLARY...



Overall attendance

Overall attendance
(1st of 21 schools)
94.4%

1.6%
greater than

Median attendance
of similar schools
92.8%

Your overall attendance is 94.4% which is 1.6% higher than the median attendance of similar schools. **You rank 1st of 21 schools for attendance.** This means 20 schools have lower overall attendance than yours.



Disadvantaged pupils' Progress 8

| Year | This school | National average | Compared with national average |
|---------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2023/24 | -0.09 | -0.57 | Above |
| 2022/23 | -0.88 | -0.57 | Below |
| 2021/22 | -0.83 | -0.55 | Close to average |

54) How confident are you that being part of the Trust is beneficial?

Compare by subgroup ▾



National - Nov 2025

Very confident



Quite confident



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Question and Answer session

Summerhill School

**Thank you for your
ongoing support**