

Stronger Together

Community Newsletter from The Kite Academy Trust

POSITIVITY ▪ INTEGRITY ▪ RESILIENCE ▪ RESPECT ▪ ASPIRATION

Autumn 2026

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The Kite
Academy
Trust



Welcome from our CEO



Dear Parents, carers and members of our Kite Community,

This has been a very special year for The Kite Academy Trust. For the first time in our history, children across our academies achieved outcomes above the national average in every assessed area. Whilst the figures themselves are encouraging, what matters most is what they represent: hundreds more children achieving highly, growing in confidence and leaving our schools better prepared for the next stage of their education and future lives.

These outcomes are the result of every single one of our remarkable colleagues working together towards a shared vision, living our PIRRA values and demonstrating an unwavering commitment to ensuring every child thrives and succeeds. They also reflect the vital support that you - our families and communities - provide and makes such a difference to children's success.

In this edition, you will read about some of the many ways we continue to invest in our children, including the launch of our **Kite Pupil Pledge**, our commitment to inclusion and improvements to our learning environments. I hope it also shines a light on the important work of our business services teams - the contribution of our Kite colleagues in finance, HR, estates, IT and administration is often unseen, but it is fundamental in enabling our academy-based staff to focus on delivering exceptional education and care for our children.

Thank you for your continued support of The Kite. Together we are stronger.

Wishing you all a wonderful autumn term.

Jeremy Meek
Chief Executive Officer

Our Best Outcomes EVER!

This year marks a truly special milestone for The Kite Academy Trust and a moment of celebration for our entire community of pupils, families and colleagues as we work towards achieving our Kite vision: ***for every pupil to be happy and healthy; to contribute positively to their communities and achieve academic excellence.***

We are delighted to share that, for the first time in our Trust's ten-year history, children across our academies have achieved outcomes that are above the national average in every assessed area, including the Early Years Good Level of Development (GLD), the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) and Key Stage 2 SATs. Importantly, this achievement belongs to **all our Kite pupils**, including those children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and those who are disadvantaged. Our pupils achieved:

- ★ **81% GLD**, compared with 68% nationally
- ★ **85% in Phonics**, compared with 80% nationally
- ★ **63% in the Multiplication Tables Check**, compared with 37% nationally
- ★ **66% in KS2 SATs combined**, compared with 63% nationally

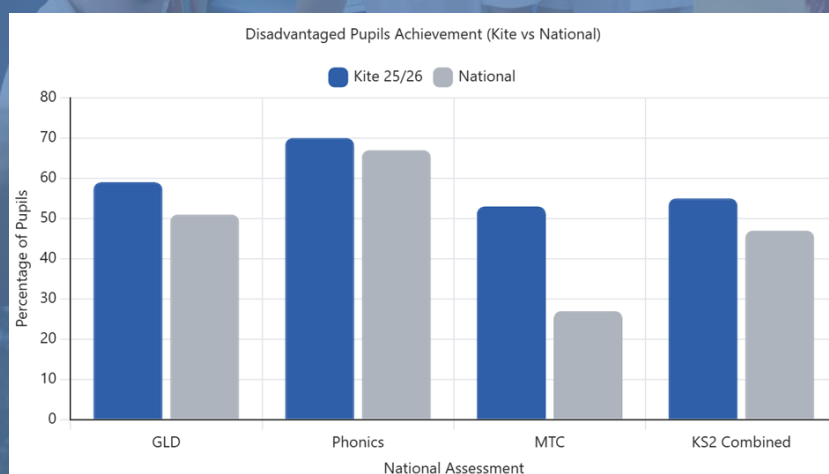
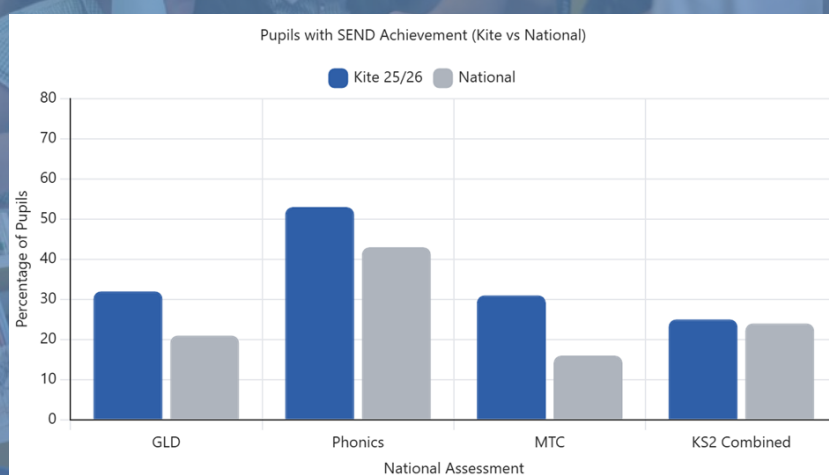
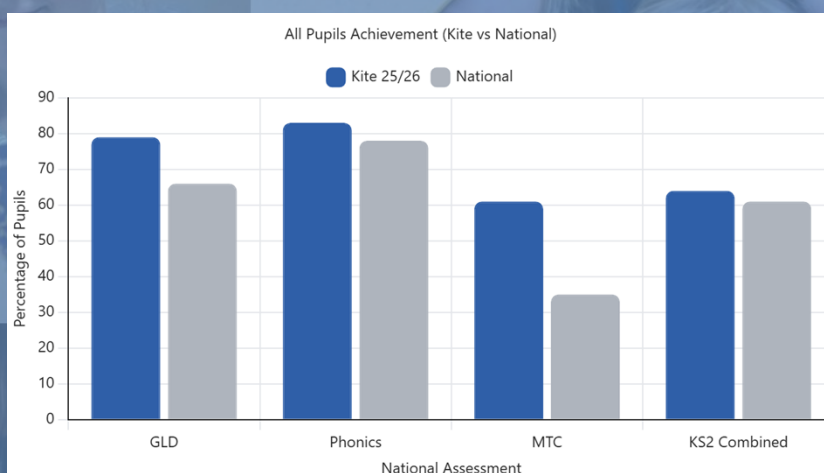
These results reflect the incredible efforts of our children, the dedication of our staff, and the invaluable support and encouragement provided by parents and carers every day.

Together, we have created a learning community where children are thriving and achieving excellence.



Celebrating Record-Breaking Outcomes for Kite Children

The fantastic outcomes achieved by our Kite children this year are a testament to the **power of collaboration** between schools and families, our shared commitment to high-quality education, and our unwavering focus on ensuring **every child** can flourish. They also reflect a rapid period of improvement across the Trust over the last 3 years, culminating in our strongest set of outcomes to date.



We are especially proud that children with SEND and those who are disadvantaged also achieved outcomes above national averages in every assessed area.

This reflects our belief that **every child** deserves the opportunity to succeed and demonstrates the impact of the support, care and high expectations found across our academies.

While we celebrate these fantastic results, what makes us proudest is what they represent. Behind every percentage is a child who has grown in confidence, developed new skills, overcome challenges and achieved something they may once have thought impossible.

Thank you to every member of our Kite community for playing your part in this success. Whether supporting reading at home, practising times tables, encouraging resilience or celebrating achievements along the way, these results belong to all of us.

Most importantly, these results belong to our children.
We could not be prouder of everything they have accomplished.



Improving the Lunchtime Experience

Over the summer term, the Trust undertook a tender process to appoint a new catering provider - **Dolce** - for all our academies. Dolce's services are carefully designed with children at the heart, providing a wider range of nutritious, freshly prepared meal options that encourage healthy eating habits and support pupils' wellbeing. By making lunchtime both enjoyable and accessible, Dolce aims to create a positive dining experience that helps children feel energised, focused and ready to learn throughout the school day. Families will also benefit from a more streamlined ordering and payment system, making it easier to select meals and manage accounts. We are excited about the opportunities this new service brings and look forward to seeing pupils enjoy the enhanced choice, quality and experience available across our academies.



Building Confidence and Lifesaving Skills

We were delighted to welcome staff from Fins Swimming Club to The Ferns Primary Academy for a morning dedicated to water safety, swimming and celebrating pupil achievement.

Staff from Fins delivered an engaging whole-school assembly, sharing important water safety messages and helping children understand how to stay safe around water and respond appropriately in an emergency. A particular highlight of the visit was the presentation of medals to Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who have been taking part in free after-school swimming lessons. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise their commitment, progress and achievements, and to celebrate the confidence and skills they have developed through the programme.

This partnership reflects our commitment to providing children with opportunities to learn and develop important life skills and to thrive both in and beyond the classroom. We are incredibly grateful to Fins Swimming Club for their continued support and look forward to continuing to work together to teach these vital skills to pupils across The Kite.



The Kite Pupil Pledge

We are delighted to announce the launch of our **Kite Pupil Pledge**!

At The Kite Academy Trust, we believe that enrichment is not an 'extra' – it is an essential part of every child's education and development. We are committed to ensuring that every pupil has access to a broad range of opportunities that help them discover their interests, develop new skills and build the confidence to thrive both in and beyond the classroom.

The Kite Pupil Pledge supports our vision **for every pupil to be happy and healthy, contribute positively to their communities and achieve academic excellence**. Through a broad range of enrichment opportunities, pupils develop resilience, confidence, leadership skills and a sense of belonging, while building the cultural capital, curiosity and real-world experiences that raise aspirations and enhance learning.

Our pledge is our promise to each and every child that they will have the same opportunities to participate in a set of meaningful enrichment experiences throughout their time in our schools, no matter the barriers they may face. Our pledge is fully aligned to the Department for Education's Enrichment Framework and focuses on ensuring that all pupils can benefit from opportunities that broaden horizons, create memorable experiences and support personal growth.

Full details of our **Kite Pupil Pledge** can be found on our website at:

<https://www.thekiteacademytrust.org/our-curriculum/the-kite-pupil-pledge>

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The Kite Pupil Pledge

Every Kite pupil gets the opportunity to be a...

CAPITAL CONQUEROR



Experience a day in London navigating city life and exploring landmarks, museums and culture.

PLANET PROTECTOR



Plant, pick and cook fruits and vegetables to learn new skills, healthy habits and protect our planet for the future.

BUSINESS BUILDER

...and it takes to be

TIME TRAVELLER

Dress
in time

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Inclusive Education: Ensuring Every Child Thrives

At The Kite Academy Trust, we believe that every child deserves to feel a sense of belonging, to be valued for who they are and to have every opportunity to flourish. This commitment sits at the heart of our approach to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), reflecting our vision: **for every child to be happy and healthy, contribute positively to their communities and achieve academic excellence.**

Across our academies, inclusion is not something separate from everyday school life – it is woven through everything we do. We know that the very best outcomes for children with SEND are achieved when high-quality teaching, strong relationships and a culture of belonging come together to remove barriers and unlock potential. That is why we continue to invest in developing inclusive classrooms, strengthening staff expertise and ensuring that every child can participate fully in school life.

Just as every child is unique, so too is the support they may need. Our dedicated teams work closely with families and a wide range of professionals to identify needs early and respond effectively. Whether through carefully planned classroom adaptations, targeted intervention, nurturing provision or specialist support, our focus is always on understanding the individual child and ensuring they receive the support they need to thrive.

We are incredibly proud of the expertise that exists across our Trust. Through collaboration between school leaders, SENCOs, teachers and support staff, we continue to build a culture where inclusive practice is everyone's responsibility. Regular professional development, shared best practice and a commitment to evidence-informed approaches ensure that our staff are equipped to meet the needs of all learners with confidence and care.

Most importantly, we are proud of our children. Every day, we see pupils demonstrating resilience, kindness, curiosity and aspiration.

The result? Excellent outcomes, eight exceptionally positive Ofsted judgements, and - most importantly - children who feel valued, supported and able to flourish. By creating inclusive environments where every child can belong, participate and achieve, we are helping to ensure that all learners develop the confidence, skills and aspirations they need for the future. Together, we are creating communities where every child can thrive.



Our Remarkable People

At The Kite Academy Trust, we know that achieving our vision - **for every pupil to be happy and healthy, contribute positively to their communities, and achieve academic excellence** - starts with our people. That is why this year, following our strategy update in the last newsletter, we are proud to be launching our Trust-wide Remarkable People Strategy which focuses on attracting, developing and supporting exceptional teachers, leaders and support staff across all nine of our academies.

Our strategy is built around the values that sit at the heart of our Kite community: **positivity, integrity, resilience, respect** and **aspiration**. As you will recall, these values were shaped by both children and colleagues from across the Trust and have now successfully been embedded in everyday life at The Kite.



The impact, for our children, of focussing on our colleagues is clear. By investing in high-quality professional development, staff wellbeing and wellness, leadership opportunities and collaboration across our academies, we ensure that pupils benefit from skilled, motivated and caring staff who are at the top of their profession.

We know that when staff feel valued and supported, they are better able to create the inspiring and ambitious learning environments in which children flourish and thrive. Our commitment to reducing unnecessary workload, developing future leaders and promoting wellbeing and wellness helps us provide consistent, high-quality education for every child. Ultimately, our Remarkable People Strategy is about giving children within The Kite Academy Trust the very best start in life, which they all deserve.

Engaging Spaces

This summer, our Estates Team has focussed on enhancing outdoor spaces across our academies, investing in improvements that will benefit children for years to come. Projects have included the refurbishment of playground equipment, the creation of new sand and digging pits and landscaping work to develop engaging learning areas. These improvements provide children with stimulating, high-quality environments that support development, creating spaces for them to play, explore and learn.



Over the summer, our IT Team have been busy preparing for the new academic year, demonstrating our values of **resilience** and **aspiration** along the way. Four classroom interactive whiteboards have been replaced and three older boards repurposed for new teaching spaces, making the most of the resources we already have and adapting them to meet new needs.

The team has also set up 32 new iPads at Lakeside, kindly funded by the PTA, providing additional opportunities for digital learning and supporting our shared aspiration to give our pupils the best possible learning experiences. By ensuring that technology is reliable, up to date and readily available, the IT Team play a vital role in enhancing teaching and learning and help to support children to engage more effectively with lessons, developing the digital skills they need for the future.

Alongside outdoor improvements, our Estates Team has also completed a range of internal works as part of the Trust's cyclical maintenance programme, to ensure that our learning environments are the best they can be. These works have included classroom redecoration and the installation of new flooring, helping to create bright, welcoming and well-maintained learning environments.



New Kite Website

The beginning of the autumn term saw the launch of our new Kite website, designed to provide a more modern, accessible and user-friendly experience for parents, staff and the wider community. The new site brings together key information from across our academies in one, more easily navigable place, making it simpler to access news, policies and important Trust updates while also creating a platform to celebrate our many success, achievements and opportunities. You can explore the new website at:

<https://www.thekiteacademytrust.org>



Enjoying the Outdoors, Whatever the Weather

Outdoor learning and play at Lakeside have been enhanced with the addition of a new sun shade, made possible through the generous fundraising support of FOLPS (PTA) and installed by our skilled Kite Estates Team.

The new structure provides a safe, comfortable outdoor space for pupils and staff to enjoy throughout the warmer months. Offering protection from direct sunlight, it is designed to support outdoor learning, play, social activities and events, helping children make the most of their time outdoors.

This fantastic addition is a great example of what can be achieved through collaboration across our Kite community. We would like to thank FOLPS for their continued fundraising efforts and commitment to the school, to provide the very best environments and resources for our Kite children.



The Teams Behind the Scenes

Behind the success of our academies is a team working hard to ensure the Trust operates smoothly, delivering quality services and value for money, allowing our Academy Headteachers, leaders and academy colleagues to focus on what matters most – **our children**.

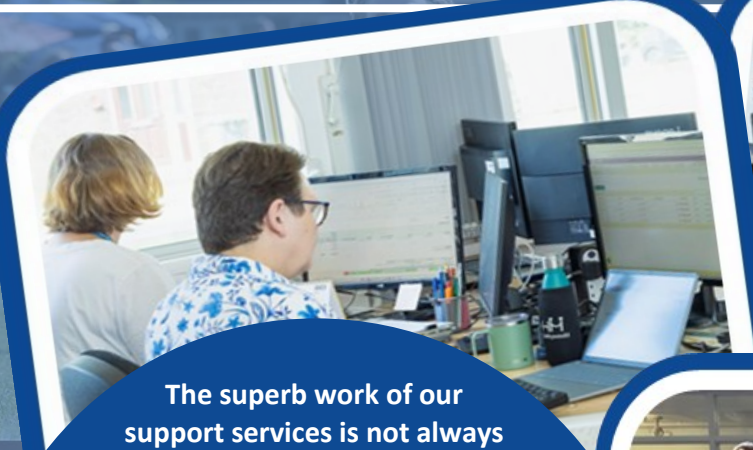
In this edition, we shine a spotlight on our Business Services Finance Team and the **vital contribution** they make across the Trust. Every day, the Finance Team works to ensure that our Trust's resources are used carefully, transparently and in ways that directly support teaching and learning. Working in collaboration with academy leaders on budget and resource planning, monitoring and management, they work behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly so our academies can focus on providing the very **best education for every child**.

Over the past year, we have strengthened our financial systems, improved the way we share information with schools and supported leaders through an increasingly challenging economic landscape. We have also worked closely with local authorities, government agencies and school leaders to secure funding and grants, including those supporting nursery and wraparound care provision, helping us to enhance services for children and families across our communities.

The impact of this work is felt in classrooms every day. Careful financial planning enables investment in the key areas: high-quality teaching, learning resources, enrichment opportunities and safe, well-maintained environments where children can thrive. Our aim is always the same: to make sure every pound is used wisely and that our decisions create the best possible opportunities and outcomes for children across The Kite.



Dan Sainsbury
Director of Finance



The superb work of our support services is not always visible and so our wonderful team were delighted to be invited to The Grove Primary Academy to receive beautifully written letters from the children in Year 2, thanking them for all their hard work behind the scenes.

Our support services - in Estates, Finance, HR, IT and academy-based administrative teams - all play a vital role in ensuring our academies remain strong, sustainable and able to provide children with the high-quality education, experiences and support they deserve.

