



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership  
Norton Hill Primary School,  
Silver Street,  
Midsomer Norton,  
Somerset BA3 2UD  
headoffice@msnpartnership.com  
[www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com](http://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com)

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you with some fabulous news regarding schooling in the area of Midsomer Norton, Radstock and the surrounding villages. For the first time ever, all three main secondary schools are graded 'Good' or better by Ofsted and all primary schools in this area of BANES that are part of MNSP, are also graded 'Good' or better. This is an incredible achievement and as I have indicated, not something that has ever happened in the past. I am delighted that the impact of the work schools undertake together, under the guidance of the Trust, is really making education in this area of Bath and North East Somerset so strong.

In all cases, schools in the Norton, Radstock area have been praised for their excellent work in supporting all children to achieve well in SATS, GCSEs and A levels, for their high standards of behaviour and for the positive happy environments seen in schools. When Ofsted visits a school, they talk to parents, pupils and staff independent of Headteachers or Trust leaders. In every case, these groups, randomly selected by Ofsted, have reported that schools in MNSP Trust are great places to be, where children are encouraged to learn and do well. I have no doubt that our collaborative work as a group of schools is paying off, so that parents and carers have excellent choices for their children.

Not only am I delighted by the success we have seen in Ofsted inspections, but we have been ranked as the 6<sup>th</sup> highest performing Trust in the country this year and the top performing Trust in the South West for the progress pupils make in their GCSEs. Additionally, we are ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the country for attainment in the EBAC subjects – this is the collection of difficult, more traditional subjects – English, Maths, Science, History/Geography and Languages. This success further highlights how well the group of schools that make up the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership are performing, not just in terms of Ofsted inspections, but also in the outcomes children are achieving. This good news extends to our SEND children who perform exceptionally well against their peers nationally and in our schools.

As a final point, I know that there will be some Parents and Carers who feel their children may have had a less positive experience in our schools. I would encourage them to come forward and discuss this with their child's school. I have said before that whilst we are one of the top performing and highest ranked Trusts in the country, we are not perfect. What is not so helpful however, is the use of social media to post parental concerns or discuss ongoing matters relating to a school or pupil. Schools locally are exceptionally strong and are like this because they listen and act on feedback from external professionals, but also parents and children. Posting something on social media, particularly if it is done so anonymously, or where a member of staff is identified, is not only unhelpful but also a potential breach of personal data. It is also unlikely to bring about any improvement or change.

The local area is very lucky to have such high performing and successful schools and I am very grateful for all the support we receive from the 10,000 or so parents and carers we serve in the Midsomer Norton, Radstock area. Schools work best when we all work together and share problems so that good

solutions can be found. Please do continue to support our schools so that the excellence referred to at the beginning of this letter can continue for years to come.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun Williams'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

Alun Williams  
CEO