

The Ryedale Federation Vision Statement

- To be a federation with a passion for learning at its core, where every student in every school is inspired to realise their potential.
- To be a federation which promotes healthy, happy and confident learners that are equipped to succeed in a changing world.
- To be a federation that seeks best practice, locally and nationally, and shares expertise through true collaborative practice so that collectively we are stronger together.
- To be the schools of choice for parents and students and to be schools of which all stakeholders are proud.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find attached my summer report which gives an overview of the areas we have been working on this term in relation to our strategic priorities for the federation. For detailed information with regard to individual schools, please refer to individual school websites and newsletters.

Once again, all of our schools' leaders and staff have worked incredibly hard this term in supporting our children and developing the quality of their provision. Thank you to all of the staff working within the federation for their commitment and support and to all parents for your continued support of our schools.

I hope you all have a lovely summer (and the weather holds for at least another couple of weeks) and a relaxing time with your families.



Mark McCandless
Executive Headteacher

Pursuing Excellence

To support all schools to ensure student progress across the federation is outstanding.

A well planned and thorough revision and test/exam preparation programme was implemented for pupils taking their Key Stage 2 SATs and GCSE exams this summer. CPD sessions were run for staff at Ryedale School on how best to prepare and help students using evidenced based research and Year 6 teachers across federation schools collaborated to share best practice and resources.

Quality assurance of teaching and learning is now fully embedded across our schools and is helping to drive up standards by ensuring staff get regular and developmental feedback (low stakes/high frequency). This has been driven by the Heads of School, supported by the Secondary Director.

From September 2018 all schools within the federation will use Fischer Family Trust to support target setting for pupils to ensure high aspiration for pupils of all abilities. Staff will be provided with information on how pupils of similar ability have achieved nationally (FFT 50) on average and how the top 5% of pupils of similar ability achieved nationally (FFT 5). This information and context will ensure that FFT estimates are used by teachers, alongside their professional judgement, to inform the setting of achievable but ambitious targets. This initiative will support teachers to teach to pupils' potential and move us closer to realising our ambition of having all federation schools consistently performing in the top 10% of schools in the country for pupil progress.

I have included below a paragraph from the recent Ofsted Short Inspection of Sinnington Primary School which recognises Gill Hardacre's excellent leadership as Primary Director, the strength of the federation and its capacity to drive school improvement:

'Since taking the role of interim headteacher in January 2018, along with the Ryedale Federation executive headteacher, you have promptly identified the areas of the school that need to improve. You have successfully drawn on your expertise as the Ryedale Federation primary director to drive improvement effectively. You have rightly focused on improving the quality of teaching and put in place relevant performance management approaches and staff training to further develop their skills. You are making effective use of staff expertise across the federation, which is raising expectations for pupils' outcomes. There are clear plans in place to build on this work, including improving middle leadership capacity, through federation-wide initiatives.'

Sinnington Primary School's inspection did not change the school's current overall effectiveness grade of 'Good' but did identify some priorities for improvement. These areas had already been identified by the school and are being addressed.

Enhancing the Curriculum

To ensure all pupils receive outstanding provision across EYFS and all Key Stages.

Pip Martin	Associate EYFS Lead
Yvonne Turnbull	Associate KS1 Lead
Anna Aspery	Associate KS2 Lead
Nic Dunn	Associate English Lead

Our newly appointed Associate Phase/Subject Leads (unpaid leadership professional development roles) have been busy this half term supporting Heads of School with self evaluation and development planning for September 2018. We are confident that these colleagues will further develop collaborative practice and raise standards across all phases within our primaries.

The Year 8 options process is now complete as Ryedale School moves to a three year Key Stage 4 from September 2018. To ensure a 'broad and balanced' curriculum all Year 9 students from September 2018 (and moving forward) will continue studying a humanities subject (history or geography) at GCSE level and more able students will study a language (French or Spanish).

Developing Staff

To develop and attract great teachers and share expertise to provide high quality CPD for all staff.

Schools have now aligned their Professional Learning calendars to facilitate greater opportunity for staff across the federation teaching in the same phase (EYFS, KS1, and KS2) to engage in joint planning and the sharing of best practice.

The appointment of Neil Roden, who will take up his post as Head of School at Sinnington CP School, shows the attraction of the Ryedale Federation to staff looking for career progression opportunities. Neil has been working closely with Gill Hardacre this half term to ensure he can make a positive impact from the beginning of the new academic year.

Steve Ridley, in post from January 2018 as the federation HLTA, is now an integral part of the federation ensuring continuity in learning for pupils when their teacher is not in school but also creating capacity within each of our primary schools to enhance quality assurance procedures and CPD opportunities across the federation.

Promoting Lifelong Success

To ensure pupils are supported to become happy, confident and mannerly individuals with the skills to make a successful transition into the next stage of their learning.

Transition points have been carefully planned for across the federation to help ensure pupils are ready for the next stage of their learning - both in moving up a year within a key stage and moving into a different key stage. Staff have been given time within the professional learning schedule to complete handovers to ensure staff taking up a new class for September 2018 have an accurate insight into pupils' strengths and areas for development.

Steve Merritt has made a brilliant start in his role as Inclusion Manager at Ryedale, as the school strives to become a 'zero exclusion' school - the first in North Yorkshire. The school has adopted an 'internal exclusion' system instead of excluding students and sending them home. The aim is to improve the provision for young people vulnerable to exclusion both educationally and personally, whilst maintaining the high standards set with regard to behaviour in school. Though exclusions are rare in primary schools, they are sometimes appropriate and necessary and we are in the process of exploring if we can adopt this system across the federation primary schools during the next academic year as we strive to support all pupils whilst still upholding the highest possible standards of behaviour.

Strengthening the Community

To embed federation, grow existing schools to meet demand for places and seek additional partner schools.

We are delighted that Sinnington Pre School, run by Kerry Rudd and her team, will be joining the Ryedale Federation in September 2018. Sinnington Pre School has a strong reputation in the community for providing excellent Early Years provision, recognised by its 'outstanding' Ofsted judgement in 2016. We have been working with Sinnington Pre School since Easter to provide before and after school provision for pupils and families at Sinnington CP School and the Pre School. However, this formal relationship between the two establishments from September 2018 will serve to further enhance EYFS provision both within the Pre School and Sinnington School and will also help pupils make the transition between Preschool and Sinnington.

Ryedale School's new build was officially opened on the 21st June by their newly appointed Head Girl, Georgia Morgan and Head Boy, Harry McMurray. This extension and general improvement of facilities enables the school to admit 150 students per year group from September 2018 (up from 140 per year group). With the school being oversubscribed this development will ensure Ryedale School's continued success in these financially challenging times.

Securing Financial Sustainability

To support the pursuit of excellence by ensuring the financial stability of all schools within the federation.

Financial modelling has been undertaken to develop a strategic five year financial plan for every school which will enable each school to be in a surplus revenue position at the end of the five year period. These medium term financial plans ensure that a strategic approach can be taken to staffing decisions across the federation which support teaching and learning.

We are continuing to invest in each school's site and buildings to create an even better learning environment for pupils; this includes the routine but also important planned maintenance work such as decorating, replacing carpets and blinds as well as projects such as improving the early years outdoor area at Helmsley School and improving IT facilities in all schools.

Our schools' PTAs continue to provide fantastic support for each school and have once again proved invaluable in terms of their fundraising efforts and the time members have volunteered to enable the successful running of school events and projects – a huge thank you to all involved.