

Annual Report

2024-2025



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Welcome from the CEO

I'm delighted to welcome you to Ivy Education Trust's 2024-2025 Annual Report.

We have had a busy year, and there has been so much to celebrate across our schools that I am excited to share with you in the upcoming pages. We have seen four Ofsted inspections in quick succession (three in a five-week period!), a new school site and nursery opening, exciting funding developments for some of our buildings, wraparound care launches, sport wins at national and international levels, fabulous theatre productions, inspiring collaborations with educators and thought leaders, and we even saw children in castles.

It is impossible not to acknowledge that schools across the country face significant challenges, and here in the South West, those challenges are felt all the more keenly by our families and communities. Funding is tight, and the needs of our young people are greater than ever.

We continue to celebrate the unique identities of our schools, simultaneously strengthened by our belief that, as a Trust, we are stronger together; stronger to face and tackle those challenges. With colleagues in schools working together, supporting each other, sharing expertise and best practice across our schools to deliver the highest standards of teaching and learning, we stay focussed on what truly matters: providing our pupils with the best opportunities to thrive. Driven by our mission - to empower futures, for a better tomorrow - we are guided by our core values of **Courage**, **Compassion**, **Commitment**, and **Collaboration**...



Courage empowers us to make bold, evidence-informed decisions in the best interests of our pupils-even when those decisions challenge convention or involve difficult change.



Compassion keeps us rooted in the understanding that every learner is an individual, each with their own story, needs, and aspirations.



Commitment drives our unwavering dedication to educational excellence, ensuring every pupil is supported to achieve their full potential.



Collaboration strengthens our schools by fostering a culture of shared learning, mutual support, and collective improvement - for the benefit of all our young people.

These values are not just words on a page; they shape our daily decisions and long-term direction and growth. I see these values demonstrated each and every day in our five primaries and three secondaries, throughout our central team and support services, and in our practice of ethical and robust governance.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the ongoing commitment and dedication of the staff, pupils and their families in all of our schools. It is a privilege to work alongside them as we strive to build a better future for all the young people in our care.



Katy Quinn
Chief Executive
Officer

Letter from the Chair of the Trustees

On behalf of the Trustees, welcome to Ivy Education Trust's second Annual Report.

I would like to start by thanking the families, parents and carers in our communities for their support during this last year.

The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill debate in the Houses of Parliament in May was led by Baroness Smith of Malvern, where she communicated how the Bill would deliver on manifesto commitments to 'drive high and rising standards in our schools, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to achieve and to thrive,' whilst recognising that 'currently, children's life chances are limited by systemic obstacles, despite the good work of schools and Trusts showing collaboration, strong leadership and innovation.' She eloquently highlights the stresses and strains felt within our schools: for the staff, the wider communities, the young people and the families of those young people.

In my role as Chair of the Trustees, I regularly visit the five primary and three secondary schools within our Trust. Whilst there, I see our staff working hard in the face of such stresses and strains, to focus on the

wellbeing and future chances for the young people in their schools. It is a huge responsibility and I see the evidence that with rigid adherence to the Trust mission, a clear focus on the core values of Courage, Compassion, Commitment and Collaboration, and through working collectively, sensitively, creatively and tirelessly, the best interests of the children and young people in our schools are well served. Every single day. And in many different ways.

Another important part of my role is to oversee Governance. In any organisation, it is vital; it acts to establish rules, practices, and processes to ensure effective, ethical, responsible and accountable operation. It's clear therefore that within an education setting, Governance plays a crucially important role, providing a clear framework to ultimately provide a safe and productive environment for children, their families and our staff.

Our Trustees generously volunteer their time and expertise and are highly skilled and influential people who take responsibility for the Strategic Governance across our eight schools. Our Scheme of Delegation clearly sets out the role and remit of all levels of Governance. Clear policies and procedures

are essential, and the central team monitor and update these regularly to ensure they are legally compliant, provide clear guidance and reassurance, and communicate the Trust schools' values and expectations to all of our stakeholders. Meanwhile, we were happy to welcome three new Trustees to the Board in the last academic year, further strengthening the foundations of experience, knowledge and skills, to work with us in fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment where every child will thrive and achieve their full potential.

We all have the capability within ourselves to contribute and ignite profound change. Let's continue to work together to empower the futures of our children and young people – for their better tomorrow's.



Tony Smith
Chair of the
Trustees

Trust-wide Staff Development Day

This February saw our whole Trust gather on a rather chilly, rainy Valentine's Day at Newton Abbot College for our annual Staff Development meet. Although it tried its hardest, the weather could not dampen the charisma and enthusiasm of our four phenomenal presenters, and their excitement was infectious.

Our theme this year was 'Equity, not equality'. Empowering children to flourish is our mission; to enable all our children to thrive in the current context is at the forefront of everything we do.

Joe Sparks, Tara Elie, Dr Pooky Knightsmith and Marc Rowland delivered stimulating talks on the topic that challenged our thinking about how we can maximise the success for our disadvantaged and SEND pupils. It was certainly a thought-provoking topic! The feedback from our colleagues was positive and we were all inspired to seek alternative ways to look at how we can act and behave to improve the school landscape for the most vulnerable amongst our pupils. It was also wholeheartedly agreed that our schools enjoyed the opportunity to meet with, spend time with, and share some ideas and thoughts with, their colleagues from across all of our eight schools.

"...I felt enthused with inclusive practice and the idea of equity..."



"...I feel excited about the ethos of the Trust..."



"Listening to the speakers has had a really positive effect on me..."



Ofsted Inspections

A few weeks into the start of the new academic year, Teignmouth Community School received an inspection - with Newton Abbot College and Dawlish College being inspected two weeks and four weeks later respectively. To complete the full house, Starcross Primary School received the call in January... which means that all eight schools in Ivy Education Trust have now been inspected since the formation of the Trust in June 2022.





Teignmouth Community School

Returning to inspect a school judged to be 'inadequate' within a 19-month timeframe is highly irregular (it is normally around 36 months) and reflects the speed of progress seen by Ofsted at the monitoring visit in March this year. As stated in the full inspection report, the shared ambition and vision for pupils and staff to be "the best version of themselves" has driven "rapid improvements in many areas of the school" and led to a 'Good' grading across Leadership & Management, Personal Development and Sixth Form Provision.

We are particularly pleased that the inspection team recognised how our clear behaviour expectations and a significantly improved, broad and ambitious curriculum means that pupils and sixth-form pupils are now better prepared for their next steps.

We acknowledge that there is still work to do and the inspection findings accurately reflect our own evaluation and judgement of where we currently are on our school improvement journey. And it is just that - a journey of school improvement. This means we, as a school and as a Trust, will remain committed and focussed on our ambitions for our pupils and staff, as we all continue to build on those rapid improvements already made.



Newton Abbot College

Newton Abbot College received a full graded inspection, and the inspection team confirmed what we already believed – that Newton Abbot College is strongly a good school, in every category. As an inclusive and comprehensive college, we are committed to broadening the horizons of young people, and so it was reassuring to see this recognised when the inspectors observed that "the school, with the support of the Trust, has reviewed the curriculum to ensure it is broad and ambitious, which has raised outcomes for pupils and sixth form students". The report went on to make some further lovely observations about the school:

"The school is calm. Pupils and staff have positive relationships...pupils feel safe."

"The school offers a variety of extra-curricular activities...Clubs such as 'train club', water polo, and sign language develop pupils' interests. School productions bring pupils together to develop their talents."

"The school is inclusive and disadvantaged pupils learn as well as their peers."

Dawlish College

No sooner had we drawn breath on the back of the Teignmouth Community School and Newton Abbot College inspections when we received the call at Dawlish College. This time it was to be an ungraded inspection. The wordy judgement, rather than grade, is that the 'school has maintained the standards identified at the previous inspection'. The last inspection was the full graded inspection of March 2019, when Dawlish College was judged to be 'Good' in every category.

As with other inspections, the real joy is to be found in the words of the written report:

"Pupils arrive to a 'warm welcome' from staff."

"Pupils are well supported by staff. They trust staff to help them... they feel safe."

"In lessons, pupils are calm. They follow the routines and are ready for their learning."

"Electives provide a broad range of experiences for pupils to build their confidence and try new things."





Starcross Primary School

In January, we received an ungraded inspection at Starcross Primary School. The inspector recognised the huge and rapid improvements made by staff in the school. It was also clearly acknowledged that “the Trust has an accurate view of the school. They know the strengths and areas for improvement.” It was apparent the inspector felt that recent decisions and actions taken to improve the school were already making a positive impact.

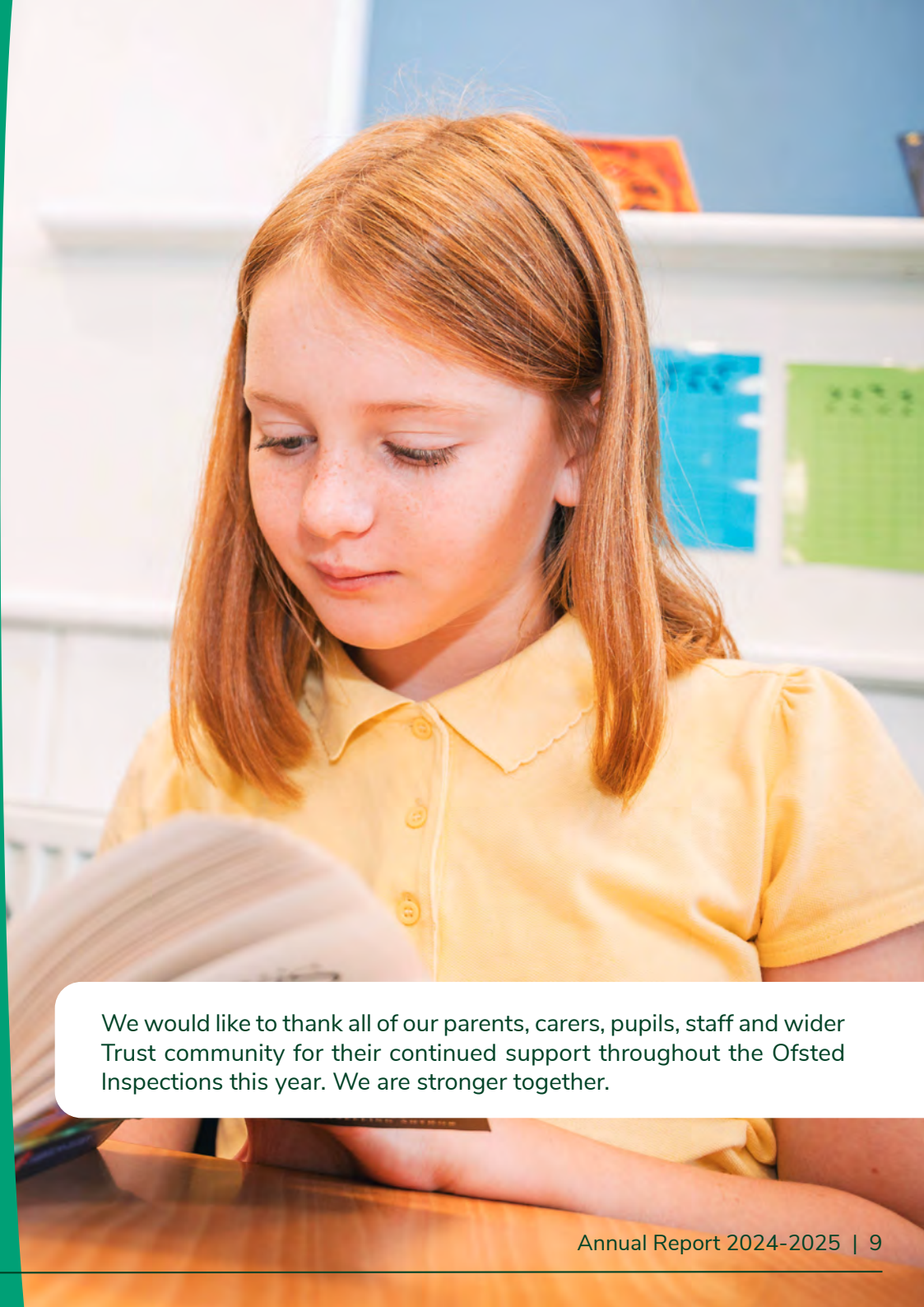
The report following this ungraded inspection makes it clear that the next inspection (probably within 12 to 24 months) will be a graded inspection. Starcross retains its current grading from the last graded inspection which was a ‘Good’ back in 2013; that was confirmed in a short inspection in 2017.

The Starcross report also contains some wonderful comments, including:

“Pupils are happy at Starcross. They are polite and welcoming. Pupils behave well and enjoy coming to school. Social times are harmonious and fun.”

“Staff share the school’s aspirations, and their morale is high.”

“Relationships between adults and children are warm and caring. Children are confident and thrive.”



We would like to thank all of our parents, carers, pupils, staff and wider Trust community for their continued support throughout the Ofsted Inspections this year. We are stronger together.

Capital Spend

Over the last academic year, we have refocussed our capital investment plan to ensure that all of our schools are warm, safe and dry.

We wanted to collaborate with our pupil body, enabling - where possible - the channelling of our capital investment into areas that they felt would have the biggest impact on their experience of school. We want our staff and pupils to come to an environment that promotes learning and be places they can feel proud of, contributing to a sense of collective belonging and shared endeavour.

As a result, this year we have invested...

Newton Abbot College

£250,000

redeveloping three toilet blocks.

Pupils told us that the toilets were places they didn't always feel comfortable to use as they were old and no longer appropriate for the needs and expectations of our learners.

Kenn Church of England Primary

£145,000

on a complete kitchen renovation project. Our pledge is to ensure our pupils are provided with high quality nutritious food; this is a critical building block to empower learning.

£100,000

addressing ageing and inefficient boilers. Not only does this ensure our learning environments are warm and fit for purpose for our pupils, but is also part of our commitment to contributing to reducing our carbon footprint and moving us forward on our journey to Net Zero.

£65,000

on roofing works has directly contributed to keeping learning spaces open that would otherwise have suffered from water damage and ultimately requiring of further investment to make good.

Nearly £200,000

to the school-based estates team addressing needs relating to fire safety, water hygiene, electrical safety, site security and general condition.



Stepping into Digital Transformation

At Ivy Education Trust we recognise the value of having a robust and fit for purpose digital infrastructure that serves the needs of our staff and students, preparing them to thrive in a digitally enabled world.

Our digital vision is to harness technology to empower staff, enhance teaching and learning, remove barriers for our students to ensure they succeed, and create efficiency through our systems and services. This year we have...



Started a phased hardware refresh, through the deployment of new devices to staff in both teaching and non-teaching roles.



Upgraded internal network capacity, resilience and site-wide connectivity.



Invested in and secured in-bound internet capacity by moving all schools to full fibre connections.



Replaced ageing projector and AV set-ups with new, high resolution interactive screens.



Upgraded our phone systems, moving away from legacy PSTN lines through our VOIP migration programme.



Initiated our cloud migration project, transitioning critical services to hosted solutions and away from ageing on-site server infrastructure.

Financial Overview

GAG (Government Grant Income)
£26.1 million



Capital grant income
£830,000

Total income
£27.3 million

Expected costs
£27.2 million



3609
Pupil numbers



580
Number of staff



262
Teachers



330
Support staff



Our Schools



Cockwood Primary School



Kenn Church of England Primary School



Kenton Primary School



Starcross Primary School



Teignmouth Primary School



Dawlish College



Newton Abbot College



Teignmouth Community School



We are Ivy - We are... Cockwood Primary School

What a fabulous year we have had at Cockwood Primary School! Our pupils have enjoyed a wealth of opportunities to broaden and enhance their educational journey, and as a school team, we have celebrated numerous successes throughout the year.

One of our most significant achievements has been establishing our wraparound care provision through our innovative hub model, developed in collaboration with Starcross and Kenton Primary Schools. This exciting initiative is supporting families across Teignbridge, and we are delighted to see it growing. The strengthened links between our schools are already helping our pupils build friendships with children from across the Trust, which will support their transition to secondary school beautifully.

We have continued our commitment to our Voice 21 oracy journey with ongoing CPD for all staff and the engagement of our oracy champions at national events in Birmingham and London. Cockwood School is very much on the national stage, leading the way in oracy education. We are absolutely thrilled to have been awarded 'Centre of Excellence' status, making us the first school in Devon to receive this accolade! This year, we have supported staff at both Kenn and Kenton Primary Schools with ongoing CPD, helping them build oracy principles into their teaching. Moving forward, this support will extend to other trusts and schools in the area working with Voice 21, which is tremendously exciting.

Our main focus this year has been improving our pupils' Environmental Citizenship within our local community. We believe Cockwood School is at the heart of the community, and the community is at the heart of what we do. We have developed wonderful working relationships with our local community to support each other in improving our local area.



Our collaboration with the Woodland Trust saw every child plant a sapling to create a Cockwood Copse on the edge of the Village Green, encouraging smaller native birds back to the area. To build our pupils' understanding and compassion for the environment, they have visited Farmwise, to understand how farming supports and manages our local countryside. They also explored sustainability practices at two local hospitality businesses, and recently enjoyed a residential to Nethercott House to become 'farmers for a week'. The pupils displayed remarkable courage and resilience, farming from 7am every morning in all weathers!

We have also engaged with the National Education Nature Park Organisation, prompting pupils to map our school site and complete detailed nature walks in the village.

Our creative curriculum continues to play an important part in school life, with our whole school Christmas Show, choir performances at Exeter Cathedral, a visit to see the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and Year 6's spectacular end-of-year production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, to name but a few.

Being part of the Ivy Education Trust continues to bring tremendous benefits to our school community. The collaborative support and shared expertise amongst our staff team has been invaluable. A particular highlight was our Staff Development Day at Newton Abbot College in February, where we gathered as a collective to receive exceptional training from acclaimed speakers, strengthening our professional practice.

It has been a very successful year on many levels, and building strength across our Trust community has ensured our pupils feel part of something truly special.

“ I love our connection with the community, it makes me feel valued.

“ I like that the teachers don't mind if you make mistakes, they will help you fix it.

“ Our school library is amazing!



We are Ivy - We are... Kenn Church of England Primary School

Kenn Church of England Primary School have truly embraced the many opportunities that have been available this year, and it's been a remarkable year of growth and achievement. Our pupils have engaged positively in all that has been on offer, and we are incredibly proud of their numerous achievements, including our Spanish Club winning a hamper in a national competition and our Year 5 and 6 pupils being triumphant in the locally run Rotary Quiz, taking home the trophy once again. Throughout the year, our dedicated team have worked tirelessly to bring learning to life. We've seen geography field trips to Dartmoor, Ancient Egyptian workshops, and weekly enrichment at our Forest School site, where children make cakes in the mud, look for dragonfly larvae, and enjoy all that the site has to offer. As a church school, our connections with our local church are integral to our core vision and values. Our school family has enjoyed supporting the summer fete, performing in the Christmas and Easter services, and welcomed a range of visitors to our school who have brightened our year.



Being part of the Ivy Education Trust has enabled our school facilities to become even better, and we have witnessed this transformation first hand through the significant investment in our school kitchen. This enhancement not only benefits our pupils directly but also allows us to provide meals for other children in schools within our Trust, creating a wonderful sense of community and shared purpose.



A part of
IVY Education
Trust





Our pupils are thriving through the expanded opportunities now available to them. Pupils from across all year groups can take part in sports and music festivals and competitions alongside their peers from across the Trust.

The professional development opportunities have been equally transformative. As a team of school teachers, leaders and support staff, we have benefited from excellent training and professional development, and we can now see the tangible benefits of this networking and collaboration. Our

recent visits as the Ivy team to other trusts across the UK will continue to upskill and develop us further, ensuring that our pupils receive the very best provision and experiences possible.

Being part of Ivy has substantially moved our school forward, and we are incredibly excited for the future. The collaborative approach, shared expertise, and enhanced resources have created opportunities for our pupils that we could never have achieved in isolation.

We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for our school community. Thank you to all of our families for your continued support. We look forward to even more positive developments as we progress through this exciting journey together.

“ I love the teachers at our school because they make me feel safe.

“ I love our big field because it is the best for playing with friends.

“ I love PE with Mr T because we can play lots of sport likes cricket and tennis.

We are Ivy - We are... Kenton Primary School

This has been a year of rich experiences, shared achievements and community connection.

Our Autumn term began with an extraordinary opportunity that saw us relocate to the grounds of Powderham Castle. This bold move reflected our staff's deep commitment to creating meaningful and memorable learning. The curriculum was completely redesigned and learning was brought to life in a stunning setting, where children explored history surrounded by deer, herons and ancient woodland. Children took part in hands-on history sessions with the Powderham Education Team, developing their understanding through exploration and curiosity. Families were invited to join us for an open afternoon with cream teas on the lawn, a joyful moment of togetherness that celebrated the collaboration at the heart of our school community.

Our move to our new building on Kenton Playing Fields also marked a significant milestone. It brought the school back to the centre of the village and placed the school back at the heart of the community. This transition showed the strength of our collective commitment to providing a nurturing and inclusive space for every child to thrive.

Building on this move, we were thrilled to open our doors to our new Nursery in April! Situated in the beautiful primary school setting in the heart of our village, the nursery children have access to the same high quality EYFS teaching practices, and are able to experience the space and beauty of the extensive grounds and natural environment on offer at our school.

Throughout the year, our curriculum has offered rich and varied opportunities for pupils to show courage and curiosity, with visits to the Houses of Parliament and Hampton Court Palace to take part in a Tudor festival, continuing their development as reflective and informed historians.



We have worked closely with a wide range of organisations including the RNLI, the Dog's Trust, the Police and Little Green Change. These partnerships have supported the children's personal development and fostered compassion by encouraging them to think about the needs of others and their role as global citizens.

This has been a year of growth, joy and connection. Every learning opportunity, visit and performance has been underpinned by our shared values of Compassion, Collaboration, Commitment and Courage. These values are not just words on a page. They are lived every day by our children, staff and families as we continue to grow, together.

Being part of Ivy Education Trust has brought a wealth of opportunities and benefits to Kenton Primary School. Through Steplab coaching, we have been able to strengthen our teaching and learning principles, refine our classroom practice, and ensure that every child is empowered to succeed, while our teachers continue to grow professionally. Our collaboration with Teignmouth Secondary School on our production of Matilda has further enriched our creative curriculum, with shared resources and the use of their fantastic venue. Celebrating Community Week has also deepened our shared identity – we are Ivy, we are Kenton – and reaffirmed the value of being part of a wider community that champions support, collaboration and ambition.



“ Our school is amazing! I really like it.

“ I like the Portakabins® best because there's a lot of room and we can really get settled.

“ I like that we moved to a castle, it was really exciting.



We are Ivy - We are... Starcross Primary School

The children of Starcross Primary School have truly embraced all the wonderful opportunities that we have been able to provide for them this year. If Primary school is about making memories and connections with your friends, then we have certainly achieved that this last year.

Highlights have included our youngest children enjoying a pantomime whilst curiosity drove our Year 1's to venture through the secret doors of a castle. Year 2 were on the high seas, sailing on the Golden Hind. Our Year 3 children hunted for fossils in the home of Mary Anning, Year 4 lived life as Anglo-Saxons, Year 5 travelled by train to solve Brunel's biggest conundrums and Starcross' oldest children experienced big city life with two nights in London. Phew!



Our VE Day celebration was an absolute favourite; the whole school - adorned in red, white and blue - enjoyed a 'street party', complete with a scrumptious cream tea, accompanied by 1940s music and dancing. We have been entertained by the amazing musicians who have learned to play through our peripatetic music lessons that we offer- drums, piano and guitar. Our choir has performed at Young Voices in Birmingham and as an encore, have entertained some of Kingsteignton's older residents, much to their obvious delight.



This year we have participated in more sporting festivals than ever: trigolf, athletics and handball to name but a few, and we've travelled to football tournaments as well as hosted matches on the pavilion field. Our Sports Day was the most memorable event so far, bringing the whole school community together for an entire day. The teamwork, ambition and resilience of our children never ceases to impress. We are incredibly lucky that our swimming pool has been open since the May half term this year and it's been wonderful to invite the children of Teignmouth Primary School to also benefit from this facility, as well as the wider community during evening lettings too. This year, we became the hub for our after-school provision and are joined by Cockwood and Kenton.



As a school, the benefits of being part of Ivy Education Trust have really been felt this year. Ranging from the support we were given by the Central Team before, during and after our Ofsted inspection to the generous funding provided to maintain our beautiful but aged building and wonderful additional facilities. With thanks to the Trust, the learning experience has been substantially improved for all with the purchase and installation of new interactive whiteboards in all the classes, as well as essential building changes happening this summer, which will provide a new entrance, new toilets for the pupils, meeting rooms and most importantly a new library to really celebrate the love of reading that we place at the heart of our curriculum. The Trust also invest in our continuous journey of school improvement, by providing regular and meaningful opportunities to spend time with highly experienced, passionate and results-led professionals. We are definitely stronger together, and all of the benefits directly and positively impact the children and families in our school and community that we serve.

The Central Team are always available to offer help and support and there are regular opportunities to meet – Trust Leader events, training days and wider Trust events – and these meetings are invaluable. Not only is it important to come together as a collective – to share and collaborate with our Trust colleagues – but also, we feel valued and respected by our fellow leaders. Even more than that, we enjoy seeing each other and catching up on the exciting things taking place in our schools!

“ I feel safe at Starcross.

“ Starcross are like a family.

“ I feel well prepared for my secondary school.

“ I have been on some great visits but the London residential was my favourite – I will remember it forever.

“ I LOVED IT! BEST SPORTS DAY EVER!!!!!!!

“ I wish every week was SATs week...



We are Ivy - We are... Teignmouth Primary School

It has been a year for taking up challenges, showing courage and utilising opportunities for collaboration at Teignmouth Primary School this year.

Our staff and pupils have embraced a range of challenges, and at all points asking the question: 'Why not?'. With some exciting and enriching results! Why not take a group of children to participate in the world's largest choir in Birmingham? Why not invite a range of local artists to school to work with every child? Why not enter a range of arts competitions? And subsequently: Why not celebrate the many children who have entered and won these competitions? And then, why not turn one of our classrooms into a purpose-built Art room? And now, why not do the same for Cookery?! More important than the questions are the results – and they speak for themselves. In a year that saw our pupils enjoy a thriving arts offer, the school was awarded the Artsmark Silver and Musicmark in quick succession. So, the question on everyone's lips now is: Why not develop this even further and receive even higher awards?



As an Ivy school, we are committed to providing children with rich and exciting experiences, inside and outside the classroom. Working alongside our Trust School Improvement Partner, we have had a particular focus on our Enrichment foundation, '35 ways Teignmouth will help you grow'; a list of experiences we want every child to have enjoyed by the time they leave Teignmouth Primary School. For example, we would like all children to have camped outside, visited London, performed on a stage.



Over the year, we have worked even more closely with Starcross Primary School. Subject Leaders have developed the curriculum across both settings, teachers have shared and modelled approaches, and the Teignmouth pupils enjoyed a recent trip to Starcross Swimming pool! Teachers are enjoying the development available through collaborating with other schools in our Trust and at every point, this collaboration serves to highlight that, not only are we stronger together, but – most importantly – this benefits all of the young people in our care.

We are proud to keep children at the heart of all we do. Continual CPD opportunities for our Designated Safeguarding Leads (accessed by all Ivy Education Trust schools through the National College) helps to maintain a strong culture where safeguarding children is a priority. A recent glowing Safeguarding Audit recognised this, but it was this comment from a child that epitomised the importance of a consistent and compassionate approach to the children and families we serve: “I love my teachers – they always make me feel safe.”

As part of Ivy Education Trust, our staff have benefited from the commitment to grow great people. High quality CPD has been a continual focus; as well as the use of Steplab to provide improvement through incremental coaching, staff benefited from a variety of training opportunities – our shared Trust-wide Staff Development Day was a particular highlight in the calendar year. Outside of this, as a Trust, we have continued to

promote staff wellbeing with an ongoing gathering of staff voice (through our Edurio surveys) and access to the Employee Assistance Programme. Alongside this, collaboration between the schools (whether through Subject Leadership, Moderation, or Transition) has helped to develop our practice.

Of course, at the heart of all that we do is children; through the Trust’s commitment to development of staff, so shall all of our pupil’s benefit.

“ I love being creative.
It means I can express
myself.

“ It’s great to have
so many adventures.

“ I’ve never got to learn
to swim before and it’s so
much fun.



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This school is proud to be a

Music Mark School

In recognition of a commitment to providing a high-quality music education for all children and young people

2024 - 2025

Bridget Whyte
Bridget Whyte
CEO of Music Mark

The UK Association for Music Education - Music Mark | www.musicmark.org.uk

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THIS IS NOT A REHEARSAL

Music Mark’s campaign on sustainability in music education

We are Ivy - We are... Dawlish College



This academic year has been a powerful reflection of our Trust core values, with pupils and staff showing courage in new experiences, compassion in community efforts, commitment to learning, and collaboration across every corner of college life. Very much in evidence have also been our school expectations: Be Safe, Be Kind & Polite, Follow Instructions, and our values: We Work Hard, We Work Together, We Make Things Better, and these are securely embedded in day-to-day school life. In fact, our 'Daily Dawlish Diamond' awards celebrate pupils who embody these principles, and we are delighted to have seen such large numbers of our pupils be richly deserving recipients this last year.

Our pupils have enjoyed international travel to fantastic destinations for the first time since the pandemic. Years 9 and 10 walked the boulevards of Paris in October, whilst in March, with courage and curiosity, pupils from Years 9, 10 and 11 explored the culture, cuisine and history of Barcelona. Both unforgettable journeys of learning and growth. Year 9 pupils embraced the spirit of inclusion and courage, with 160 pupils participating across two trips to London – our largest group yet – ensuring more pupils than ever could enjoy this enriching experience of visiting our capital.



Back in Devon, The Dawlish College Pupil Leadership Team have been hard at work, launching the "20 is Plenty" road safety campaign. Collaborating with Citizens UK and local political and community leaders, they demonstrated great maturity in advocating for safer streets. Their efforts even made it onto ITV Westcountry!

Dawlish College has an atmosphere of creativity and positivity that is generated by the provision of excellent opportunities for every individual. Our pupils displayed great compassion for the environment and commitment to their creativity through the community art project, 'Turn the Tide'. From workshops to a coin design challenge, the event celebrated pupil voice and talent.

September 2024 saw the introduction of our modern, comfortable, practical uniform that reflects pupil needs and supports learning, especially given our hands-on, practical curriculum! We have also reflected on the positive impact during the second year of our school being 'mobile phone free'. In our experience, stronger relationships and friendships form when phones are inaccessible. Pupils are to be found in social groups and chatting to one another in Millennium Hall at breaktimes, or they play in groups on the field. We have observed less conflicts and 'drama', with fewer disruptions or incidents linked to social media provocations and fallouts. The removal of mobile phones boosts attention and learning (with no notifications vibrating in pockets!) and there is the creation of a sense of freedom, with teachers free to teach, and pupils free learn.

Being part of Ivy Education Trust brings meaningful support and opportunities. Dawlish College leaders benefit from compassionate coaching and supervision, helping them thrive in demanding roles, which ultimately positively impacts our pupils. Our commitment to Professional Learning Communities fosters collaboration, with successes

in tackling behaviour challenges and SEND action planning. With strong backing from the Trust Central Governance Team, the Local Governing Body continues to grow in strength and impact.

“ I loved going to Paris! I saw and learnt so much by being there.

“ We are not statistics, we are people, young people. All we want is to get to and from school safely.

“ It's a very encouraging school with lots of kind and polite members of staff.



“ I actually like not having my phone in school. I talk to my friends more.

“ For me, the new uniform is much more comfortable than a shirt and tie.

We are Ivy - We are... Newton Abbot College

We have enjoyed another busy year at NAC, with a continued focus on adaptive teaching and classroom practice, ensuring all pupils make excellent progress and any existing gaps continue to close.

This year, reading at the College has seen significant success, with pupils actively engaging in tutor group reading sessions and targeted interventions for those who need it, including phonics, fluency, decoding and - always - reading for pleasure! Through this combined approach of structured group reading and personalised support, understanding is deepened by exploring different cultures and time periods and encourages a greater confidence in, and enjoyment of, reading. Some of our keenest readers recently enjoyed an hour-long online session with David Walliams, who inspired them, talking of his love for reading and writing, finally being treated to his delivery of an extract from his latest novel!

Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength; we welcomed 70 new Year 12's at the start of the year, alongside 15 international pupils, who really contribute to enriching our pupils' cultural experiences. Our Y13's succeeded

in achieving some incredible university and apprenticeship offers and we look forward to results day in August and seeing that their hard work has paid off.

We opened our Rosehill House Speech, Language and Communication hub this year; this has provided a supportive environment to meet the needs of our most anxious and vulnerable pupils and has been crucial in providing a stepping stone back into school for pupils.

In sports and arts, our pupils have demonstrated such resilience, creativity, courage, perseverance and ambition this year, both at a local and national level. The list is long and varied, but in our local community: pop-up photography exhibitions, collaboration on the design of a 16-metre tree mural, a record number of pupils participating in Ten Tors Challenge, charitable work a-plenty, and on the national landscape, we are so proud to be the only state school in the country to have two Netball teams progress through Area, County and Regional rounds to take their place in the National Finals in Sheffield in March.



As part of an ongoing commitment to amplify pupil voices, members of our school's LGBTQIA+ group had the exciting opportunity, along with other Devon schools, to attend a workshop at Exeter University. The focus was on mental well-being, connection and community, with topics ranging from managing stress and building confidence to exploring identity and finding support networks both in and out of school. This was a safe and welcoming space to share experiences, build friendships and learn valuable strategies for self-care and emotional resilience. The well-being of all of our pupils is always a priority here and our school is proud to be part of a wider movement promoting inclusion, understanding and positive mental health for all pupils.

It was a pleasure to host this year's Annual Staff Development Day in February, themed 'Equity - not equality'. Utilising our fabulous two-site campus created a great opportunity to bring together all colleagues from across our Trust primary and secondary schools. Providing 'equity in education' has been a focus for NAC, aiming to place our pupils from a disadvantaged background at the forefront of everything we do. Days like these are valuable; not only to share ideas and best practices, but also to hear thought-provoking speakers who prompt new and exciting ways of thinking. Importantly, these days also remind us that we are part of something bigger, and that together there is strength, all of which ultimately benefits the children and young people in our schools and their wider communities. Being part of the Trust has helped us to develop our

enrichment offer and as a result, pupils' personal development has been enhanced. We have also collaborated with the Quality of Education and Curriculum Leads across the Trust. Strong professional relationships have formed through our regular meetings, and we have produced important documents, all focussed on enhancing teaching and learning across all our Trust schools. We valued the Central Team's input and support when we received our graded Ofsted inspection.

“ Being a Wellbeing Ambassador has helped me to be more confident with other people

“ The Ten Tors was an amazing experience. We worked so hard as a team and we got the job done.

“ Being in Rosehill has helped me a lot with my confidence. I now go to English, Maths and Tutor time every day.



We are Ivy - We are... Teignmouth Community School

We have enjoyed another busy year in our secondary school by the sea, with engagement on all levels. There have been fantastic achievements in our classrooms, on our sports fields, in our enrichment programme, and on our stage!

Everything that we do here is driven by our belief that we are all always capable of being a slightly better version of ourselves tomorrow than we are today, and this belief is underpinned by the values that, we believe, will ensure we are collectively always working to be the best version of ourselves, whatever our interests or abilities.

Consequently, in everything we do – both inside and outside the classroom – we are ambitious for our pupils and nurture the key skills that are vital for life beyond school, such as team-building, courage and resilience, creativity, enterprise, and engaging in positive and meaningful ways with our local community.

We were pleased to see Ofsted's recognition of this reflected in the report following their visit a few weeks into the new academic year; that our shared ambition and vision for staff and pupils

to be 'the best version of themselves' has driven rapid improvements in many areas of the school, including Personal Development, Sixth Form Provision and Leadership and Management – all being upgraded to 'Good'. Our achievement is a significant one and we are committed and excited to build on this success. Working collaboratively with our pupils and their families in our goal to improve attendance is vital and we will continue to develop those relationships and develop understanding around those barriers to children and young people being in school and learning. Equally, our commitment is steadfast in further curriculum development and achieving consistency of quality of teaching in our classroom. Working with our partner secondaries in the Trust to share best practices and develop strong professional working relationships will further strengthen us on our continuing journey of school improvement.

“ My learning has improved since primary school.

“ When teachers say good morning to me and ask if I am OK, it makes my day.

“ I am proud of the staff who help vulnerable people and the support team that help pupils.

“ I feel that my teachers are very skilled and knowledgeable in their specialist areas. This ultimately results in me achieving my aspired grades with their help and support.

This academic year has seen us form the Teignmouth Scholars programme; pupils in Year 9 have been selected to be part of the cohort based on their attainment and attitude to learning so far in their education at Teignmouth Community School. The programme of opportunities is scheduled to run from Years 9-13 and will support these pupils in reaching aspirational pathways, whilst exposing them to a vast amount of enrichment opportunities. So far, they have participated in a problem-solving workshop led by Next Steps South West, a Law-based workshop, and more recently demonstrated admirable leadership skills in a practical workshop led by the Army. There is much excitement building for their enrichment trip to London scheduled for July.



Outside of the classroom, our pupils demonstrate such courage, collaboration, compassion and commitment and as a result, have achieved excellence in many different fields! We were thrilled to see Our Rocket Club shoot for the stars – and even beyond! As the UK number 1, they qualified to travel to the international finals in Paris, where they missed out on first place to

the USA by a nanosecond – 1.4 seconds to be precise – taking second place. What an incredible experience and achievement. Our KS4 pupil-led productions showcase these pupils' flare for creativity, leadership, cooperation, and endurance as they put together their fantastic productions entirely on their own. Our Esports in 6th form continues to grow; our team have beaten 16 other schools and colleges in the country to become number 1! And our Boys U16 footballers went all the way to the Devon Cup final, losing out to Torquay Boys grammar; this was a life lesson in action – winning is easy, but we were so proud to see them accept the loss with maturity, pride and dignity. Another valuable life lesson saw two of our pupils take Oxbridge interviews; what an achievement and an opportunity to experience personal growth.



We value that we are part of, and here for, our local community. Our school hosts many community activities, including children from a local primary school visiting our science labs to carry out some scientific experiments, primary schools in our Trust performing shows, and we are very much looking forward to our auditorium being the new location for the Teignmouth Community Choir. Being part of the Trust and collaborating with our other schools across the Trust, allows us to navigate challenging times, and everyone knows and feels that they are not on their own. We are stronger together, and we help and support each other in so many different ways. Following Dawlish College's success as a totally phone-free school – and as a school that cares about the well-being of the young people in our care – we too will become a phone-free school in September. Yondr pouches were installed during May half term, and both pupils and teachers in the last few weeks have experienced the shape of things to come! We look forward to sharing the benefits of this bold move with you over the course of the coming year.

As we look towards the next academic year, we are excited to further build on our ambitions for our pupils. Thank you to our parents, carers, pupils, staff and wider Trust community for their continued support. We are proud to be Teignmouth Community School.



Empowering futures: for a better tomorrow

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