

## Penk Valley Academy Trust: Our Strategy

### The purpose of education

in a speech given in 2015, the school's minister Nick Gibb described the purpose of education as follows:

*All schools have a responsibility to educate the next generation of informed citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and instilling in them a love of knowledge and culture for their own sake. It is also about the practical business of ensuring that young people receive the preparation they need to secure a good job and a fulfilling career and have the resilience and moral character to overcome challenges and succeed.*

John Hattie, in his book *10 Mindframes for Visible Learning* (2018) wrote the following:

*The prime purpose of education is to help students exceed what they think is their potential. To see in students something they may not see in themselves and to imbue them with our passion for learning.*

In order to ensure that Penk Valley Academy Trust supports its schools to fulfil their purpose, it has identified a mission that will significantly improve the capacity to do so.

### Our Mission

Our mission is to ***inspire learning***.

### Our Strategy

In order to make this a reality we:

- Invest in our people
- Invest in a designed offer
- Invest in quality

### Our People

Our most precious resource is our people. In order to fulfil our mission, we:

- Invest long-term in the professional development of our headteachers and leaders, across all aspects of our work and at all levels. Growing leaders who are confident in where they are going, how they are doing and what they need to do next. Leaders who understand the power of collective efficacy and build teams that deliver a value significantly greater than the sum of their parts.
- Invest long-term in the professional development of our teachers, using the visible learning framework, to ensure that all our teachers are or are becoming experts in teaching, learning and assessment.

- Invest long-term in the professional development of all those who support the learning process in any way, to ensure that they are confidently and effectively adding value to the learning process.
- Invest in enabling staff to promote and instil the positive behaviours required for learning.
- Invest in ensuring workload is reasonable for all.

### **Our Designed Offer:**

We:

- Invest in the creation and development of a rich, relevant and engaging curriculum that inspires, informs and challenges all our learners and appropriately prepares them for the future. We will invest as much in the how (it will be delivered) as we will with the what (we will deliver).
- Invest in the necessary underpinning support to enable every child and young person (however disadvantaged – be it physical, mental, environmental etc.) to access an appropriately ambitious curriculum.

### **Our Quality**

We:

- Invest in research in order to ensure that our decisions are appropriately evidence-based.
- Invest in ensuring each of our schools is operating at its optimum capacity, in everything from pupil numbers to quality of estate and infrastructure.
- Invest in providing at least one high quality traded service that can generate income to support the trust's work.
- Invest in identifying new schools that both share our vision and would bring additional capacity to our trust.