

# Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



2 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a restful summer holiday and are looking forward to another great year across DMAT.

I am writing to you today with an important update about the leadership of the Trust. After four years leading the Trust, Dan Morrow, CEO and Trust Leader, will be taking up a new opportunity as CEO of Cornwall Education Learning Trust (CELT) from the beginning of January 2025 – following CELT's outgoing CEO's retirement at the end of 2024.

Therefore, his last day as CEO at DMAT will be 20th December 2024 (the last day of term).

As you will know, DMAT was established in 2018 by local schools coming together to pool resources to best serve their communities and deliver excellent education and opportunities to all children in the areas. Since joining the Trust, Dan has provided strong and inspirational leadership, guiding us through the aftermath of the pandemic and to new strengths that we have continued to develop over recent years. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on how far the Trust has come under Dan's guidance.

Many of our schools have been on impressive improvement journeys, striving to deliver excellent standards of education and care to our students. Tavistock's recent Ofsted report, which saw it rated Good in five out of six of the categories, is a shining example of these efforts and just one of the many impressive Ofsted results we have received post-pandemic.

It has also been fantastic to see the range of new and exciting opportunities we have been able to offer Trust-wide to our students. For example, this year's residential trips to Normandy gave 161 of our Year 6 students the chance to learn more about French culture and the events of D-Day around the 80th anniversary of the liberation. The residential trips, which

**Registered address:**

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust  
Wardhayes, Simmons Way  
Okehampton, England, EX20 1PU

01409 259 613

**Company number:** 11075564  
Registered in England and Wales

**Trust governance team**

[governance@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:governance@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Community contact**

[community@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:community@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Recruitment and references**

[recruitment@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Media enquiries**

[communications@dmat.org.uk](mailto:communications@dmat.org.uk)



[dartmoormat.org.uk](http://dartmoormat.org.uk)

have been run for two consecutive years to date, were made possible thanks to the Trust's successful bid for grant funding through the Department for Education's Turing Scheme. It is exactly these types of enriching and immersive experiences that we as a Trust strive to offer in abundance to our students, to give them the best possible opportunities for personal growth and learning.

Dan exemplifies DMAT's mission to act as intentional civic leaders, working with and for our communities, to enable all to thrive and succeed. Dan has also championed rural schools at a national level, calling for greater support and funding to tackle issues such as the mental health crisis, food poverty and many more. As a Board of Trustees, we can only offer our personal thanks for the dedication and passion he has brought to the role and I am sure you will all join us in wishing him all the best in his next position, where he will continue to champion these same causes on behalf of the region.

Community building remains a priority for both DMAT and Dan. The retirement of the current CEO of CELT presented an opportunity for Dan to help embed this crucial focus on community at the heart of CELT, as he has done at DMAT. We are also confident our ongoing relationship with Dan in his new role will help to foster a wider sense of community and connection throughout the entire south-west.

The Board will continue to work closely with Dan throughout the autumn term to explore possible options in the interim. He will also be supporting Susanne and the entire Senior Leadership Team on transition arrangements whilst the Trust Board finalises arrangements for January onwards.

Please be assured that this change will not impact your child's education or daily school life, and your school leaders and teachers will very much continue in their roles.

Dan wanted to share with you:

*"It has been a real privilege to serve as Trust Leader for DMAT. Having arrived in Covid and forced to close all schools on my first day as leader, it has been a long journey of improvement and reopening. Whilst there remains much still to do, I am confident that the Trust is in good shape to truly become the vehicle for excellence at social justice that the children and communities of our part of Devon so so richly deserve."*

**Registered address:**  
Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust  
Wardhayes, Simmons Way  
Okehampton, England, EX20 1PU

01409 259 613

**Company number:** 11075564  
Registered in England and Wales

**Trust governance team**  
governance@dmatschools.org.uk

**Community contact**  
community@dmatschools.org.uk

**Recruitment and references**  
recruitment@dmatschools.org.uk

**Media enquiries**  
communications@dmat.org.uk



dartmoormat.org.uk



If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact the trustees, Dan or another member of the senior leadership team.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for your continued support and commitment to your local school and the wider Trust community. We look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Yours faithfully,

*Tania Skeaping*

**Chair of Trustees, on behalf of  
Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust Board of Trustees**

**Registered address:**  
Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust  
Wardhayes, Simmons Way  
Okehampton, England, EX20 1PU

01409 259 613

**Company number:** 11075564  
Registered in England and Wales

**Trust governance team**  
[governance@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:governance@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Community contact**  
[community@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:community@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Recruitment and references**  
[recruitment@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@dmatschools.org.uk)

**Media enquiries**  
[communications@dmat.org.uk](mailto:communications@dmat.org.uk)



[dartmoormat.org.uk](http://dartmoormat.org.uk)