

# A vision for the Four Stones MAT

The vision underpinning the establishment of the Four Stones MAT is that it will bring together a group of likeminded schools which when combined will improve the education and life chances of a larger group of young people. In the current educational landscape groups of schools working together within a formal structure is the only viable and sustainable model. However, it is equally important in The Four Stones MAT that each school maintains its individual ethos and distinctive features. Whilst acknowledging the many additional pressures placed upon schools, the core and defining purpose of the Four Stones MAT will be to ensure that every day, every students' education in the Four Stones MAT is the best that it can be.

The Four Stones MAT will use the opportunities presented by working as a group of schools to offer a broad, balanced and inspiring subject offer at both GCSE and A level with a focus on an academic suite of subjects. The intention is to build upon the already secure and sustained outcomes evidenced in individual schools whilst aspiring to even higher levels of progress and attainment. Building a reputation for excellence from the earliest days of the Four Stones MAT with a stated commitment to an academic educational offer taught to the highest standard will ensure that student and teacher recruitment and retention will be maintained into the future.

The Four Stones MAT whilst working tirelessly to secure outstanding student outcomes, which in turn will ensure that the performance tables reflect the quality of the educational provision it provides also recognises the need to offer the best in pastoral care and extra curricular provision to maximise opportunities for students to learn to be the resilient, tolerant and caring citizens of the future who are sufficiently inspired by their education and the opportunities it brings to leave the Four Stones MAT as life long learners.

Education and working in the public sector are defined by moral purpose and this will be at the centre of the Four Stones MAT and will strategically be defined by proportionate growth, integrity, a respect for member schools individuality and a commitment to staff professional development and wellbeing. Equally, it is the stated aspiration of the Four Stones MAT at set up that all schools will be provided with the support and opportunities to achieve an 'outstanding' grade from Ofsted.

The Four Stones MAT will utilise the expertise at its disposal to secure additional funding but will also look for the necessary economies of scale required to ensure the Four Stones MAT as a robust entity into the future. The Teaching School and SCITT are pivotal in this regard enabling as they do opportunities to engage with professional development at a local and national level as well as providing high quality entrants into the profession.

The Four Stones MAT recognises the rapidly changing dynamic of education and is well placed to manage and take advantage of this, offering as it does an opportunity to embrace and excel in a school-led system for the benefit of the students and schools in its care.