



Batley Multi Academy Trust

The **Batley Buzz**^{🐝🐝}

The Trust at the heart of the Batley community

October 2024

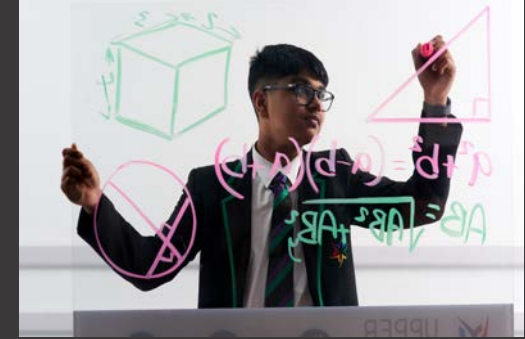
Edition 2

Our children deserve the best.
No child left behind - ever.
Every school a great school.
Creating remarkable people.



Our Trust Vision

Every young person,
regardless of their background or
starting point, receives a first-class
education, coupled with
high-quality care, guidance and
support.



Our Infant and Primary News



World Mental Health Day

We celebrated World Mental Health day at Manorfield with a series of assemblies on the theme of mental health and wellbeing. Our learners showed their support for the day by wearing yellow.

We recognise the importance of good mental health and always take a holistic view of all of our learners by planning learning that encompasses wellbeing.



We're going on a bear hunt!

Reception had a bear hunt themed day after enjoying the classic book. All of our learners brought in their favourite bear from home and took them on their very own bear hunt.

We are lucky at Manorfield to have beautiful grounds which are perfect for searching for bears. Our learners walked through the long wavy grass and experienced a real authentic bear hunt. We love bringing learning to life!



Manorfield Batley Breakfast

We hosted our annual Batley Breakfast on Tuesday 15 October 2024, where we welcomed Members, Trustees and Governors. The best part of the morning was one of our Year 2 learners, who had prepared and delivered a speech about why she loves attending Manorfield school. She talked about all of her favourite lessons and her aspirations to go to university to become a paramedic. She is a shining example of our Manorfield values, bringing positivity everywhere she goes and having the confidence to talk in front of an adult audience, at 7 years old, is a brilliant achievement. *You're never too old to learn!*



Friday 'extracurricular' activities

We have wanted to run extracurricular activities at Manorfield for a long time, but have found that due to early mosque commitments, many of our learners cannot attend after school clubs, so we have now placed these into the school day on Fridays. Children had the choice of seven different clubs to attend for a term. The clubs included; yoga and mindfulness, big maths, reading club and a sewing club. Learners are mixing across Key Stage 1 and we are hoping, in the Summer Term, that Reception will join in our Friday afternoon extracurricular offer too.

There has been a lot happening at The Fields Community Space at Manorfield

See more on our dedicated **The Fields** page ...

Community makes us

A group of Year 5 learners attended an event at the Asda head office in Leeds. The children learned about sustainability and worked with our community champion, Sharon, to look at ways we can help people in our community and help protect the environment.



Family Maths!

We recently held a Stronger Together session focussed on maths where lots of parents/carers joined our teachers to find out how they can support their children at home. It was a great session for everyone involved!

Stop, Look, Listen and Think

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 had storytime with Joanne who works for the road safety team at Kirklees Council.

They enjoyed a story 'Teddy takes a walk' and talked about the importance of holding an adult's hand when out and about and especially when crossing roads, walking on the safe side, finding a suitable place to cross, and wearing a bright coat or reflective clothing.



To find out more about our Stronger Together group, please click the icon below.

FIELD LANE J, I & N SCHOOL
STRONGER TOGETHER
PARENTS & CARERS FORUM

There was a great turnout and a wonderful atmosphere at our annual potato harvest, and the baked potatoes were delicious as always!

It was so nice to see lots of cousins, aunties, uncles and grandparents too.

What a great way to spend a sunny autumn Saturday!



The annual Field Lane Digathon!



Pumpkin carving and berry picking galore!

Mrs Porter has been making a positive impact on primary learners who benefit from appropriate provision through engaging outdoor activities. This initiative has included growing vegetables, picking blackberries and carving pumpkins; all aimed at promoting gardening, health, and fitness.

One standout activity involved freezing the blackberries harvested by the learners. Mrs Porter then arranged a delightful tasting event where everyone could enjoy the berries with ice cream and homemade blackberry sauce. Remarkably, even those learners who were initially hesitant about combining fruit with ice cream were pleasantly surprised by the delicious result!

Through these hands-on experiences, Mrs Porter is not only fostering a love for nature and healthy eating, but also creating lasting memories for our learners.

The pumpkins are now proudly on display ready for Halloween!



Macmillan Coffee Morning

We hosted our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 27 September 2024; welcoming parents/carers into school to enjoy delicious sweet treats with their children. Cakes, buns and biscuits were kindly donated by learners, parents/carers and staff. Mr Farrell, our Catering Manager (Aspens Catering Services), kindly gifted his renowned chocolate brownies and the wonderful cake creation pictured below was donated by parents/carers.



This wonderful fundraising event was incredibly well attended and testament to the relationship the school enjoys with its primary phase families.

We raised a total of £305 for this fantastic charity.





Chat 'n' Chill

Our chat 'n' chill coffee mornings began as part of our Stronger Together Parent/Carer Forum. We celebrated **World Mental Health Day** on Thursday 10 October 2024, with Mrs Knapton and Mrs Widdop both leading the way on: 'It's okay not to not be okay.'



Black History Month

We have explored the theme of **reclaiming narratives** for Black History Month; learning about Black history and culture.

It's important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our community and to support the **multiculturalism and diversity** that shapes it. We pride ourselves on celebrating diversity and we feel it is one of our *unique selling points* at Healey.

Huddersfield Town Football Association came to talk to our Key Stage 2 learners about Black History Month, to teach them what it means and why it is important.



A special visitor

The inspirational Josh Slack performed a medley on his Bass Guitar – the audience was blown away by his musical talents! Josh aspires to be a teacher, following his recent graduation from the University of Manchester.

We can't wait for him to return as a visitor to Healey and maybe even one day train with us.



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to our Catering Team

For winning not one, but *TWO National Awards* for Excellent Dietary Needs and Theme Days and Advertising. Way to go team!

Alumni returns to Healey

Musa Ravat, a former learner from UBHS, is training to be an Educational Support Assistant and HLTA. Musa is doing a fantastic job in Year 4. We are so lucky to have him at Healey!



Our Secondary News



BATLEY GIRLS'
HIGH SCHOOL



Founded 1612



UPPER
BATLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Believe Achieve Succeed



Batley Multi Academy Trust



Year 10 visit Cummins

Our visit to Cummins Turbo Technologies was a very inspirational event. Our Year 10 learners had a tour of the office space giving them great insight into the running of the organisation.

They also had an opportunity to speak to a wide range of their employees who discussed their varied career pathways, which was equally informative and inspiring for our learners.

Careers Fair Extravaganza!

We had a fantastic turnout for our careers fair for Years 9, 10 and 11, as well as BG6 learners. We were supported by a range of local, national and global businesses as well as higher education providers including; Huddersfield Town Foundation, Turner and Townsend, Asda, Newcastle University and Leeds Trinity University - allowing our learners to explore the breadth of educational and career pathways on offer. We also had a member of our alumni attend, offering advice on guidance on being a speech therapist. You can't be what you can't see.



Fire Service advice for Bonfire Night

As we approach Bonfire Night, Mrs Logan arranged for the West Yorkshire Fire Service to deliver a talk to Year 9 learners sharing advice and guidance on Bonfire Night activities.

The focus of the presentation was to educate our learners on the potential dangers of bonfires and fireworks, specifically examples of anti-social behaviour encountered on Bonfire Night and the consequences of hoax calls. The fire service has so many different career paths, it was great to find out more about exactly what their jobs entail.



HumanUtopia

Earlier this month we welcomed HumanUtopia back into school to continue working with our current Year 10 cohort and also to deliver their 'Who Am I' programme to Year 7.

All our learners have now been through the 'Who Am I?' programme, which provides learners with the opportunity to think about who they are, how past experiences have moulded who they have become, and how they can make positive changes for a bigger and brighter future.

It was great to hear such amazing feedback from Steve and Ryan, the two presenters on the day, who commented on how well the learners had engaged in the programme. It was an inspiring and thought-provoking session where many learners had the opportunity to stand up and speak about their experiences to date.

humanutopia

empowering young people to make positive change

Autumn Equinox and preparing for winter in Forest School

Year 7s in Forest School have been learning about the Autumn Equinox, which marks the beginning of Autumn and lasts until the winter solstice on 21 December. In Forest School at this time of year, we encourage learners to wrap up in warm weather clothing, we put on the volcano kettle and make hot drinks. One of the defining features of this season is the seasonal produce, with chestnuts being a particular highlight.

We are lucky at UBHS to have many chestnut trees. We collect them and during the colder days often roast them for our learners to try. We also have many species of fungi, which is very beautiful and thrives at this time of year due to the damp weather conditions.

The new recruits for Forest School have settled in really well they have now all set up their winter shelters, which are definitely required with the downpours we have had recently! This activity, in particular, has helped to build relationships and work together.



Partnership with Pocketalk



We were selected from over 400 entries to become a UK Education Ambassador for language diversity. One of only six schools in the UK that will partner with Pocketalk, the global leader in translation technology, after the company launched a nationwide programme designed to identify schools that exemplify leadership, adaptability, care and innovation in today's diverse educational landscape.

Here at Upper Batley we currently have over 455 learners with EAL and almost 30 languages are spoken. The Pocketalk devices provide real-time translation to allow the flow of conversation and will help the interaction at; parent and carer evenings, celebration evenings and other meetings or events with families.

Regional winners!

Modeshift STARS held their regional awards event earlier this month and we were the Regional Secondary School Winner for the North East, Yorkshire and Humber.

The award was based on our Platinum accreditation as well as all the work we have completed over the past two years. Including; sustainable ideas to travel to school, a SpeedWatch on Batley Field Hill with the local council.

We are now waiting to hear when the National Awards will be taking place so we can plan our trip to London - exciting times! Watch this space...



Our Sixth Form News



Year 13 Biology field trip to Castle Head

Year 13 Biologists recently spent a weekend investigating sand dunes as part of their practical endorsement certificate in A Level Biology.

The weekend included a meadow investigation, observing woodlice in choice chambers, kick sampling in a stream, setting mammal traps and even catching a field mouse!



This practical experience is invaluable for our learners to bring their studies to life as they prepare for their next steps beyond BG6.



Visit to University of Law

Year 13 Criminology learners visited a workshop run by the University of Law to draw conclusions on the case of Gypsy Rose Blanchard. During the session they examined a range of evidence presented in the case and how the British and American justice systems dealt with murder (or homicide) cases.

The day concluded with our learners presenting the case for the prosecution and defence, writing and delivering opening statements as a Barrister in the case. It was both informative and inspirational for all our would-be Barristers.

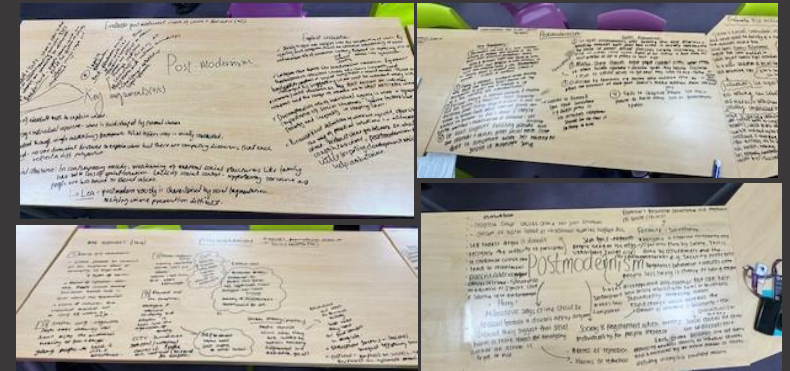


Brilliant preparation for mocks

Year 13 Sociology learners had a recent session to support recall and planning, and preparation, for writing complex essays in readiness for the mock exam period.

They were tasked with evaluating postmodern views of crime and deviance, by identifying five key postmodernist arguments, from their independent research of the topic in order to make the connection between other theories they have studied this half term.

Essentially, connecting prior learning to independent research. The session also helped them to develop a planning technique that they could use in preparation for all their mock exams later this term.



Join us at
Open Evening
Thursday 14 November 2024
4:30-7:30pm





Our Staff Superheroes



Zakaria Daji

Zak has been a Year Leader/Pastoral Support at Smart Academy since it opened. Zak's continuous support, patience and nurturing has ensured learners have stayed in education. At Smart, all learners are accepted and Zak works tirelessly to ensure it is a home for all learners.



Katie Spence

Katie is Lead for Enrichment and Holistic Education, and has been coordinating the new communities that were launched in September at BGHS. She is also fantastic at enriching our learners with STEM related events and activities.



John Cusworth and the catering team

They have been doing a brilliant job in school this year at UBHS, delivering consistent good quality in a very busy kitchen, as well as nutritionally balanced meals, and even hosted one of our Year 10 learners for work experience.



Jai Oldfield, Gemma Smith, Christine Eastwood, Meraj Shaikh and Shellie Dobson

Healey's catering superstars have recently won two national awards: The Marketing Award - Theme Day and Advertising The Janet Sylvester Award - Excellent Dietary Needs A big well done to the team for their brilliant work!



Jacqui Hall and Sarah Dick

Huge congratulations to Jacqui and Sarah who have both passed their Teacher Apprenticeship this half-term, in addition to gaining QTS at the end of last academic year.

Jacqui works at Manorfield Infant and Nursery School, following the age 3-7 route and Sarah is at Upper Batley High School, doing Secondary Art.



Ammaarah Aswat

For being completely cool, calm and collected on her first photoshoot at BGHS! She was super organised and efficient, helping the photoshoot to run smoothly. Well done!



Our Community Work ...

really means a lot to us, and we see our Trust and our schools at the very heart of our community.

Community Makes Us and it is the *unity* in community that matters.

Annual Governance Conference 2024

We held our Trust Annual Governance Conference 2024 at the start of the month. The event was very well attended and the Batley Buzz was definitely in the air. This annual event brings together our Members, Trustees, Governors and the Governance team to discuss our strategic plans for the year ahead and how we can achieve our three pledges:

1. Wellbeing (our colleagues and learners)
2. Engagement (with all our key stakeholders)
3. Appropriate challenge (to keep our schools moving forward)

In Batley, we have bucked the national trend and continue to recruit highly skilled and experienced Members, Trustees and Governors. We have a 70-strong team now and are always looking for more great people to join that team.

If you are keen, enthusiastic, forward-thinking and able to support our Trust family of schools in a Governance role, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact us at:
governance.professional@batleymat.co.uk



BBEST Good News!

St John Fisher's school donated a shipment of Pokemon gaming cards to BBEST for distribution across all 20 BBEST schools.



The school received an anonymous donation and it was more than enough to share with the wider community.

Every school in our Trust family is in the processing of receiving their goodies. Community spirit at its best!

This month, we celebrated World Mental Health Day. We know how important it is to take the time to stop, pause and talk to one another; not just this month, but always. Next month, is Movember.

Movember are the leading global charity changing the face of men's health.

They exist to stop men dying too young by tackling some of the most complex health issues facing men today – mental health, suicide, prostate cancer and testicular cancer.

It's about having a good time for a good cause:

Grow a moustache - the symbol for better men's health. It also gets attention and starts important conversations.

Move for mental health - run or walk 60km during Movember for the 60 men lost to suicide every hour across the world.



The Fields

Community Spaces at Field Lane and Manorfield

The Fields Community Spaces are situated at two of our primary schools in the heart of the Batley community; Field Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School and Manorfield Infant and Nursery School.

We recently held sessions with Diabetes nurses at both sites to educate the community about the importance of monitoring our diet and keeping our sugar levels in control. In the past month we've also hosted wellbeing sessions, ESOL classes, toilet training workshops, baby massage, mental health and wellbeing sessions and First Aid training.

We hold regular Community Events where you can come along and discuss what interests you and what you might like to see running next in terms of new sessions. One of our new sessions is to provide information on the prevention of vaping.



The Fields
Community Spaces



Contact The Fields Community Space Administrator for more information or to let us know what you'd like to see:

Huda Khan

fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk

07497 512801

 **Calling all volunteers!** 

Please get in touch with Huda on fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk if you'd like to support The Fields Community Spaces.

Find us at:

Field Lane: Albion Street, Batley, WF17 5AH

Manorfield: Manor Way, Batley, WF17 7DQ

Careers work

Partnership with NHS

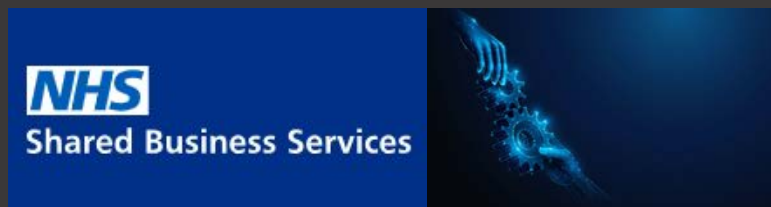
All our Trust secondary schools have now secured sponsorship with the NHS Shared Business service.

There were only a number of schools in West Yorkshire which were selected for this sponsorship. This work is funded by the NHS, in order to create connections, looking into career pathways that support roles within the NHS.

This includes:

- Insight Days
- Talks in school related to the employability skills providing real life examples of when skills are used in day-to-day work
- Incentives such as insight days, in person work experience
- Competitions/projects for learners
- Trust-wide activities for staff and learners

The sponsorship is due to run until September 2025, but it may be extended if the partnership proves successful.



Work Experience

Some of our learners have been on work experience in recent weeks and this is a key part of deciding what career learners might wish to pursue. Work experience is a great way to see a particular job up close, talk to people who are doing that job now and get a real taste of working life. Sometimes it can help you just to rule something out as you may decide that isn't the right career for you. However, you don't know until you try. What could your future hold?



MP



Fire
Fighter



Town Planner



Speech & Language Therapist

Local Councillor



Teacher



Barrister



Landscape Gardener

Our wider links

Our family of schools
Works closely with the
BBEST Hub.

Take a look at
their website for
details of local services,
support and activities.

We are proud to lead the
Yorkshire Rose Teaching Partnership
- providing high quality primary
and secondary teacher training
in West Yorkshire.
This consortium includes 15 local
schools, Exceed SCITT and local
Higher Education Institutions.

Our schools play a key role in the
Calderdale & Kirklees Teaching
School Hub. This Hub offers support
to over 400 schools across our
region. The purpose of the hub is to
provide high-quality professional
development for teachers and
leaders.

We are proud to
partner with the Global
Equality Collective. We
are working with them
to support our
approach to inclusion
for staff and learners,
driven by our belief
that no child should be
left behind, ever.



Support & advice for parents/carers and families

Childnet International has produced a very informative resource for parents/carers to help you keep your child safe online:
www.childnet.com/resources/parent-and-carer-toolkit/



For young people;

Childline

Providing help & support for under 18s.

0800 11 11

www.childline.org.uk



For families;

NSPCC

Free support & advice for parents/carers worried about a young person.

0808 800 500

www.nspcc.org.uk



The Mix

Provides essential support for 13-25 year olds.

www.themix.org.uk



Family Lives

Free, professional non-judgemental advice.

0800 800 2222

www.familylives.org.uk



Other specialist services;

Get it right from a genuine site

Find out which sites are legal for downloading movies, music and games

www.getitrightfromagenuinesite.org

GET IT RIGHT
FROM A
GENUINE SITE

Ask about games

Advice and online guides about gaming and PEGI ratings.

www.askaboutgames.com



Batley Multi Academy Trust

Our family of schools



Batley Multi Academy Trust
Trust Development Centre
c/o Upper Batley High School
Blenheim Drive
Batley
WF17 0BJ

01924 942076
www.batleymat.co.uk

