

Cranbrook education campus

Summary of applications received

The closing date for receipt of applications ended on 16th May 2014. Four applications have been received, summaries of which are as follows:

Educate Together Academy Trust

A unique opportunity to provide a modern dynamic, child-centred primary school for the Cranbrook development. The Educate Together model of primary school addresses the needs of young children growing up into a diverse and globalised society. It equips children with the individual attitudes and skills that will allow them to grapple with the needs of a sustainable society.

The Educate Together model provides a legal framework of respect and equality that maximises the participation of children, families, staff and community in the learning process. It promotes ideas of leadership, self-motivated learning and responsibility. Its quality has been independently verified by state inspectors and it has consistently provided high standards of pupil engagement and attainment in its schools.

This framework of respect creates happy, lively, engaging learning environments in which children thrive.

The Learn Together ethical education curriculum is unique. It ensures that all pupils are engaged in their individual moral and spiritual development and in equality and justice themes. It gives them deep inter-cultural skills and promotes a rich engagement in the ethics of sustainable development.

The child-centred approach to learning promotes critical thinking, discovery, problem solving, creativity and personal expression. It encourages leadership and initiative, social enterprise as well as entrepreneurship, sporting and business skills.

The Academy will be run as an eco-school and engage children in the stewardship of the natural environment and appreciation of the wonders of the natural world.

Teachers will be selected for practical teaching and assessment skills and will be qualified.

The Educate Together model maximises the constructive participation of families in the learning process and builds a real partnership between the involvement of parents and the professional role of teachers. The Academy will also provide learning opportunities for parents and staff.

The Trust has access to Educate Together's deep experience in delivering inclusion in schools, especially in the effective engagement of children with special educational needs in a mainstream setting.

The Educate Together Academy Trust is a not-for-profit charitable trust. It believes that collaboration with other educational providers improves standards for all. It is committed to working in partnership with central and local government and with local community, artistic, sporting scientific and business organisations for the benefit of children.

Educate Together is a highly experienced primary school provider. It has been the lead provider of new schools in new housing developments in Ireland over the past ten years. It has become a popular choice for new parents. It has special skills in managing new school projects and developing high quality relationships between families, communities and schools.

The Academy will maximise the use of the facility out of schools hours and for the community.

The organisation operates a growing network of 68 primary schools and has a professional school support core involving development, governance, teacher education and ethos services for its school communities.

The Academy Trust was set up in Bristol this year. It is approved as a sponsor.

First Federation Trust

The First Federation Trust is a Multi Academy Trust of six primary schools in Devon. It is a well-established highly successful organisation. We propose to establish an Outstanding Primary School at Cranbrook through enabling the school to become an integral member of the federation. We believe that we are uniquely positioned as a local provider who understands the new schools context and requirements. One of the Trust schools, Lady Sewards, is a member of the Local Learning Community and as such we are fully aware of the need to engage in full partnership working not only with the local community but the wider educational family. We also feed five different Secondary Schools and have a deep insight into the need for a joined up approach to education which transcends phases. This campus provides an excellent opportunity to develop innovative primary secondary transition and partnership working which will be support by the Teaching School. Through eight years of running a multi school organisation we have developed a range of high class systems and structures which ensures that best practice is shared across schools and impacts directly on the quality of teaching and learning. The federation is a mixed economy of schools ranging in size and demographics. We understand small and large cohorts and the variations that can occur in a school especially when a school rapidly grows. We would deploy a team of outstanding teachers from within the federation at the inception of the new school. This team would be able to implement a flexible curriculum and teaching timetable to meet the needs of the emerging school. New staff would be appointed to fill the vacancies within the federation enabling the growth in staffing requirements in the new school to be filled with skilled and experienced staff. We have a track record of school improvement with two outstanding schools and four on track to be outstanding in the next two years.

We would deploy a high quality administrator from a local school in the federation to work under our Trust Business manager setting up all back office functions. The Head of School would lead the fast growing school working alongside six other high quality school leaders, a nationally recognised Executive Headteacher and an experienced Academies Improvement Officer. As a Teaching School we also have access to Specialist Leaders of Education, high quality Joint Profession Development and resources to support the whole school staff. Our specialist Early Years Leader would support the establishment of the new Nursery and Foundation Stage classes and we have an experienced leader of 'Before and After School' clubs who would ensure that the school would set up high quality settings.

We would develop the school, alongside the secondary school, as a vibrant hub for the local community valuing lifelong learning and a sense of place. We would establish a common ethos and consistency of approach with the secondary school enabling the partnership with the parents and local community to grow alongside the schools.

As a local Trust we have developed an effective partnership with the LA over a number of years and it is our intention to continue to build and develop this relationship for the benefit of all the children and local community.

The Primary Academies Trust

The burgeoning community of Cranbrook deserves to be richly served by a hub of Educational Excellence.

The Primary Academies Trust represents a group of 8 successful Devon Primary Schools with over 120 experienced teachers. As a local provider of high quality education we are familiar with local issues and understand the context in which Devon schools work.

As Sponsor of the new school we would expect to embrace the newness of the town and work together with the first school in the area and our new colleagues developing the other site. We believe we need to work tirelessly from the outset to model best practice in collaborative partnership, working to help build a fully integrated community in which children from birth to eighteen can thrive and learn.

It will be important for us to support the good work of mutual enrichment already underway with Tania Beard and the staff at St Martins.

We will deliver the new educational provision using a project team of creative, dynamic and visionary leaders from our experienced workforce.

Our project team will embrace the underlying concepts of the Cranbrook development focusing their work around:

- developing a sense of place
- cementing a positive community spirit
- making meaningful links with the Science Park
- supporting the town in becoming one of the largest low carbon communities through strong links with Skypark
- nurturing and further extending the principles of innovation now and for the future with the East Devon Cranbrook team
- being part of the emerging planning policy, town centre regeneration and their neighbourhood plans.

Our team will expect to secure inspirational educational provision by developing strong, sustained and meaningful relationships with community stakeholders.

Relationships with parents and carers will be pivotal to success. As such we would seek to involve, engage and collaborate with Parents in decision making from the outset.

Ambitious educational outcomes will drive our agenda for resourcing the school with staff and equipment.

The working practices and organisation of the school will demonstrate our commitment to

reducing energy usage and waste and maximise opportunities for recycling.

The curriculum will be designed to teach these concepts along with understanding the importance of sustainability. The curriculum will reflect the development and changing nature of the town and will overtly set expectations for achievement and success. Collaboration and competition will feature in a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum. Pupils will be expected to participate in its design and delivery fostering their enquiring minds, curiosity and innovation.

We quality assure all aspects of our schools to identify strengths and weaknesses. Timely intervention will secure improvement and extension of strengths within and across the school.

Strong local governance will protect and grow the uniqueness of the educational provision. Local governors will be expected to champion local schools for local children and engender a sense of pride in their school and its community. They will be inducted and supported by experienced local governors from our existing schools.

Directors and Members of The Trust will look after the school to ensure its financial stability, resourcing levels and standards.

The CEO, Executive Heads of School and colleagues in the Trust Chain Leadership Team will be 'hands-on' in preparing the school for opening, settling the children and their families into school and integrating the school into the heart of the community.

The Primary Academies Trust has much to offer the Cranbrook Hub of Education. It does so openly, honestly and with an educational integrity that is successful in building provision for primary age children.

We would feel privileged to be part of the new adventure beginning in your area.

The Ted Wragg Trust

Cranbrook School will be the hub of a new and vibrant community contributing to the Council's vision and aspirations detailed within the Education Infrastructure Plan 2013-2031. We define the Trust's vision for the school as the heartbeat of Cranbrook serving the needs of the wider community; an inclusive learning hub that embraces families, young people, older learners, sports clubs, associations and those with particular social, education and health needs. The vision is delivered in partnership with successful local organisations and employers with proven capacity and capability to develop an exciting new model of education that addresses the aspirations of the community and the needs of regional employers.

The school will have 5 significant features:

1. An all-through curriculum that focuses on the individual learning pathway of each pupil and charts their development and continued improvement as they move through each key stage. The continuity of pupil data and teachers' awareness of each pupil's development will support timely intervention, opportunity for accelerated learning and special needs support as required and address transition dips

2. An innovative curriculum with a focus on enterprise and sustainability delivered in partnership with local employers and other education providers
3. A researching school with a focus on evidence-based practice
4. A collaborative ethos with the local learning communities, employers, community organisations, children centres, multi-agency support teams and the local authority to ensure the school is constantly adapting to the needs of the learners, community and local employment requirements
5. A key role in developing the ethos of the Cranbrook Village by use of school resources and access to facilities out of school hours encouraging social interaction, healthy life alternatives and engagement in lifelong learning
This will be an all-through school for children and young people aged 2 to 16 years, with the potential for integrated specialist provision for young people with impaired vision (B2). Future plans offer the prospect to accommodate Post-16 education and a strategic opportunity to create an enhanced mix of academic, technical and vocational pathways tailored to the needs of young people.

The school will offer:

- The national curriculum enriched with enterprise and sustainability as core specialist areas of applied learning and project-based activities delivered with support from local employers
- Informed pupil progression across all key stages with teachers already familiar with pupils and families due to the all-through nature
- Supported transition from KS4 into FE/Training/Employment in partnership with the College and other stakeholders/employers
- All pupils supported to achieve GCSE or Level 2 award in English and Maths with opportunities for accelerated progress
- Peer mentoring between phases to raise aspiration
- Access to specialist resources and expertise for pupils in primary phase
- Progression opportunities for staff across the Trust schools' career development programme and enhanced CPD offered through the university School of Education.
- A pastoral support model which includes vertically-grouped houses and employer, family and community engagement.