**Trust Schools – A guide for Parents**

**What is a trust school?**

A trust school is:

* A government funded foundation school supported by a charitable trust
* The trust is made up of the school and partners working together for the benefit of the school

A trust school will:

* Deliver a full curriculum for your child
* Continue to be inspected by Ofsted
* Manage its own assets, that means land and buildings
* Employ its own staff
* Set its own admissions arrangements
* Choose which partners to work with, for example other schools, businesses, business foundations, colleges, universities or community groups

A trust school is **not**:

* An academy
* A grant maintained school
* An independent school
* Involved in an admissions 'free-for-all'
* Funded differently from community schools
* Run by businesses
* Separated from the local authority
* Able to sell its land without going through the proper processes
* Able to avoid local authority re-organisation plans

**Benefits**

Depending on the kind of trust, its aims and the nature of its partners it may:

* Enable schools/partners to raise standards of attainment for children
* Enable schools/partners to share thoughts and ideas about how to improve the school to benefit learners
* Enable schools/partners to share resources and expertise to give better value for money
* Provide opportunities for learning in a variety of environments beyond the school
* Offer additional enrichment activities to your child both within the curriculum and beyond
* Be able to work with its partners to enhance the way it attends to your child’s well being
* Enable schools/partner to work more closely with the local community
* Enable the school/partners to access additional charitable funds
* Enable schools/partners to deliver a more diverse curriculum