



# A Potential Partnership: Greystones and Peak Edge

Sinead Gaffney, headteacher  
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**Why Peak Edge for Greystones?  
Why Greystones for Peak Edge?**

# This evening's meeting



- *Share information about academy trusts and what academisation means*
- *Describe why Greystones has been exploring academisation*
- *Describe why we think Peak Edge is the right Trust for GPS*
- *Outline what will change, what will stay the same*
- *Answer your questions (tonight if possible)*

# What is a multi-academy trust?



- An academy is another name for a school. A MAT is a group of schools that work together under shared academy funding agreement *and with shared values and vision*.
- All schools in England used to be part of local authorities (maintained schools) until c.2004. In that system, funding passes from the DfE to LAs to schools.
- When schools are part of MATs, funding passes from the DfE to the LA to the Trust. In Peak Edge, that per-pupil funding continues to pass to the school (£3,582 per pupil)
- The per-pupil funding is the same in MATs as maintained schools. GPS will retain its additional pupil premium, sport premium, EAL funding etc within Peak Edge. All money raised by the HSA will remain Greystones to spend.
- Until recently, MATs could bid for increased funding for capital projects, but that is changing. As an academy we will continue to receive £11k from the DfE for capital projects, which is what the school currently receives.
- *Our reasons for joining Peak Edge Trust are not primarily financial. This is about more effective school improvement and smoother systems which benefit our pupils, families and staff.*

# Why does GPS want to join Peak Edge?



*Greystones is a good school now.*

*Going forward, we want to **sustain what is good** (our ethos, our academic outcomes and personal development strengths, our child-focused policies, community relations, staff well-being & morale) and continue to work to become even better.*

- Joining Peak Edge is the best way for us to **protect** what we have at Greystones now because we will get more strategic and day-to-day support than is possible now.
- Joining Peak Edge will give us better structures and support to **continue to develop and improve** our school in ways which benefit our children and our community going forward.
- We recognise the benefit of **working in partnership** with other settings because it improves our offer to children and families and supports us to establish better systems across all our teams in school.
- Support from the local authority has changed significantly in the past ten to fifteen years
- Peak Edge recognise the **strengths** the Greystones Primary bring to this partnership
- Peak Edge has a track record of supporting schools to **retain their identity** and community focus. We will continue to look for Greystones solutions to Greystones challenges.



# Why now?



This is an exciting opportunity to further improve our schools through collaboration with like-minded partners.

- **Deeper Partnership working and innovation within Teaching and Learning** – we already work well with our local schools and it is a natural step to pursue deeper links. Peak Edge would make us one entity with shared interests. This better facilitates the sharing of good practice and expertise.
- **Resource Sharing** – economies of scale make a difference, saving much needed money during the current challenging financial climate. Within Peak Edge, external financial pressures are mitigated in order to keep jobs safe and ensure money is available for learning activities, both of which ultimately impact on the provision for our children.
- **Career and Development Opportunities** for our middle leaders and new teachers.
- **Some of our locality partners are also seeking to academise (joining Peak Edge)** - by being part of the same Trust, we are formalising our existing working relationships. We will now be genuinely invested in supporting each school to continue to improve.

# Why Peak Edge?



## Purpose

- Excellence in education for all pupils
- Support and collaboration across schools
- Fully prepare our pupils for the next stage of their life

## Values



Trust



Collaboration



Ambition



Responsibility



Innovation

- Inclusive – serving all children in their communities
- Humane – focus on growing, developing and retaining staff
- Collaborative – positive relationships between experienced headteachers

# Why Peak Edge?



## Inclusive practice

Peak Edge IRs and Hubs mean there are high levels of expertise.



## A Collaborative Community

Peak Edge partnership approach leads to demonstrable school improvement and staff development in all settings.



## Investment and development

Peak Edge have benefitted from over £10.5million in capital funding – one of the most successful Trusts for securing grant funding in England.



## Local Governing Board

The GPS governing body would remain the same and we would retain the same committees who meet each term.



## High performing schools

Peak Edge outcomes are strong and include the top performing primary school in Sheffield.



## Ofsted success

All the Peak Edge schools are rated good or better, and the only two schools in Sheffield to retain an outstanding judgement during Section 5 inspections carried out under the current framework are in Peak Edge.



## Financial Security

Peak Edge schools now all have a surplus as a result of effective financial support.

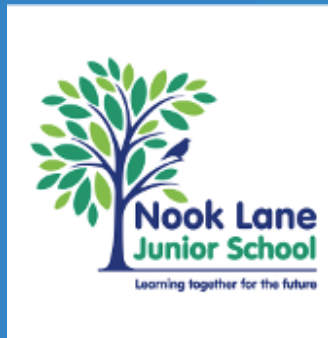


## Partnership with similar settings

We will now be invested in supporting each other to continue to improve.



# 'Excellence at the heart of all that we do'



Registered Office: Oughtibridge Primary School, Naylor Road, Sheffield, S35 0HG | Tel: 0114 286 3167

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[www.peakedge.org.uk](http://www.peakedge.org.uk)

# Why Peak Edge?



Other local schools are also now consulting their stakeholders re joining Peak Edge

