



Braunton Learning Co-operative Trust

Memorandum of Understanding

1. This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) signifies a statement of intent to collaborate but is not legally binding upon any of the parties.

The MOU recognises the intention of schools in Braunton Learning Cooperative Trust (“The Trust”) and their partners: Atlantic Coast Cooperative Trust to co-operate together in exploring further developments in the way they work with each other to support the education of young people at these schools.

2. At the time of signing this MOU, the schools involved are: Braunton Academy, Caen Primary School, Georgeham CE Primary School, Kingsacre Primary School, Marwood Primary School and Southmead Primary School. However, other schools may join The Trust over time.

The Trust will work towards the following objectives as part of our strategic plan:

- create an ethos of mutual support and transparency in working towards school improvement across schools within the partnership
- improve progress and outcomes for all children, young people and staff by analysing data across the partnership to inform how we work and how we measure success
- provide opportunities for all our children, young people, staff, leaders and governors to work and grow alongside one another, building positive relationships across a variety of curriculum and enrichment activities
- identify teams across the partnership to share subject expertise in curriculum, training and ‘business’ areas of school life so that we take advantage of economies of scale
- build additional partnerships with supportive organisations, to encourage our communities to be outward-looking

3. The Trust will set itself clear priorities linked to these activities with a clear focus on raising standards of attainment, improving achievement and outcomes for children and young people, and working with our wider community to improve community cohesion. However, the overall responsibility for any school's performance continues to lie with that school's Governing Body.

4. In furtherance of this MOU each party will identify named person(s) within their organisation who shall be responsible for sharing and promoting the common interests of our Trust Schools and those of the Trust partners:

Name of school/partner	Name of Trustee	Role	Trust Governors	Other key contact
Atlantic Coast Cooperative Trust	Jeremy Cooper	Head	N/A	
Braunton Academy	Mark Juby Fay Bowler	Chair Head	N/A	
Caen Primary School	Sonia Grant Sam Page	Chair Head	Laura Welburn Sonia Grant	
Georgeham CofE Primary School	Alison Smith Julian Thomas	Chair Head	N/A	
Kingsacre Primary School	Briony Tuohey Claire Cole	Chair Head	Briony Tuohey Helen Potter	
Marwood Primary School	Liz Quick Alun Dobson	Chair Head	Laurence Young Tom Barfield	
Southmead Primary School	Brad Bunyard Nick Plumb	Foundation Governor Head	Sarah Nicholls Margaret Robinson	

5. The Trust Board will have three further members who represent the views of parents/carers, staff and community organisations, elected from Braunton Learning Cooperative Trust Forum. They will be elected during 2021/2022 once the Forum has been established and is functioning effectively. Should a new Trust Partner be appointed after due consultation, then they will be entitled to nominate one Trust Board member. Should additional schools join The Trust they will be entitled to two Trust Board members – a nominee from the Governing Body and the Headteacher.

6. The Trust will be a charitable not for profit Trust, meeting the legal and other requirements as set out by the Department for Education (DfE). It will carry out its duties in relation to schools as set out by the DfE. The Trust will be legally established through a formal submission to the Charity Commission that will regulate its activities.

7. There is no requirement for The Trust to contribute financially to the schools or vice versa. However, any income generated by the Trust must only be used to support its charitable aims.

8. Trustees will be checked to ensure that they comply with DfE legislation. This screening will include a DBS check.

9. The Trust will work with other people and organisations, as appropriate, in order to carry out its work.

10. The Trust Board will meet a minimum of three times a year in October, March and June. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) for all stakeholders to be held in October. In signing this MOU, Trust Board members are committing to making these meetings a high priority. A Chair from within The Trust Board will be elected at the Autumn Term Meeting. The Board will appoint administrative support to undertake the necessary paperwork associated with The Trust Board's work and report directly to the Chair. We hope to work together in a manner which means that voting is a rare event but on such occasions each Trust Board member has one vote and the Chair has a casting vote should a tie exist.

11. The Trust Board will appoint two Governors (a minority) onto each of The Trust Schools having regard for the specific needs of each school. The term of office for such Governors will normally be four years.

12. The contributions each partner organisation can bring to The Trust are outlined in the Appendix. These are not exhaustive lists but serve to illustrate ways of working and supporting our children and young people. This Memorandum of Understanding is a commitment on everyone's part to play an active role in sharing their skills, enthusiasm, knowledge and expertise willingly to support our educational and charitable aims.

13. The parties acknowledge that it is not possible in an agreement of this nature to make express provision for every potential issue that may arise. However, each party will, at all times, act in good faith and shall execute such further documents and perform and do such further acts and things as the other parties may reasonably request in writing in order to carry the provisions of this MOU into full effect in accordance with its spirit and intent.

14. This MOU shall be governed by and construed in all aspects in accordance with the English law and the parties agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.

Signatories:	On behalf of:
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Atlantic Coast Co-operative Trust
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Braunton Academy
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Caen Primary School
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Georgeham CofE Primary School
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Kingsacre Primary School
Signed: _____ Print name: _____	Marwood Primary School

Signed:	Print name:	Southmead Primary School

APPENDIX

Proposed Trust Members' Contribution to The Trust.

Atlantic Coast Co-operative Trust Braunton Academy Caen Primary School Georgeham CofE Primary School Kingsacre Primary School Marwood Primary School Southmead Primary School	All members to make contributions in line with our charitable responsibilities and aims of the Trust outlined above.
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