



BPET Central Team Newsletter – Spring 2022

This is an update from the BPET Central Team, providing news and progress from across the Bellevue Place Education Trust schools.

Dear Pupils, Parents, Carers and Staff

I am delighted to start this spring newsletter with two milestones! BPET now has nine schools serving 2,923 pupils with 425 members of staff, as we welcomed Whiteknights Primary School in Wokingham into the Trust on 1st January 2022. BPET also celebrated our 10th anniversary on 20 February 2022! Growth continues to be a big focus for us, as we follow our strategic plan to grow to 15 schools by 2025.

It has been a busy start to 2022; our annual staff conference was swiftly moved online, for the second year, due to rising cases of Omicron and the need to protect staff and pupils for the start of the new school year. With an inspirational motivation keynote speaker, [Steve Judge](#) twice world disability triathlon champion, the day then offered over 40 sessions hosted by both external and internal presenters. Further information on the event can be found later in this newsletter.

Whilst COVID certainly has not gone away, we are delighted to see that the level of attendance at all schools has increased and it has been fantastic to watch schools re-starting face-to-face assemblies, parental events, external trips and sports fixtures and competitions with neighbouring schools.

As well as welcoming Whiteknights School to the Trust, I am delighted to confirm Ms Alison Hatch has been appointed [Headteacher at Whitehall Park School](#). As Interim Head and at Interview, Ms Hatch demonstrated the vision and passion for delivering the highest standards of education for the pupils at Whitehall Park School. She brings an open, friendly and collegiate approach to school leadership where children are at the centre of her approach.

We also have three new team members in the central team; Jane Aust as Operations Manager and Zhenzhen Chen and Farzia Hussaini in Finance. They are introduced later in this newsletter. We also have a new Maths consultant, Nathan Crook, who will be supporting all schools in the development of their curriculum during the remainder of this academic year and beyond. Welcome to them all!

Within our Operations team, we have several significant reviews taking place as we look to ensure we develop consistent service levels, cost and operational efficiencies for our schools, they include: PPM (Planned Preventative Maintenance), school communications platforms and school uniforms. We also have started a Strategic IT review of the platforms used and hope to share more information about this in the next newsletter.

At the time of writing, we have recently seen our schools marking the 25th anniversary of 'World Book Day' in many different ways and supporting 'Comic Relief 2022'. Many are also participating in '[The Big Wheel and Walk](#)' campaign, a two-week challenge where schools compete to see who can record the greatest number of pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school.

I hope that you enjoy reading this update and I wish you all a restful Easter Break when it comes!

With very best wishes,

Mark Greatrex

Chief Executive



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2022 BPET Virtual Conference

Once again, our BPET staff conference was moved online quickly after the rise in Omicron cases and the need to protect staff and families at the start of the new term.

We had over 250 staff, across our 8 schools, 1 keynote speaker and over 40 workshops, creating a packed day of Professional Development virtually. It was a fantastic day to bring all our staff together, expose them to some new ideas and initiatives via workshops linked to their School Development Plans and the current educational landscape.



The conference was opened by the truly inspirational Steve Judge, who shared his life journey after a near fatal car accident and his successful formula of turning your dreams into GOLD - Goal, Opportunity, Love and Desire.

That was followed by over 40+ sessions throughout the day including internal and external speakers across Art, Literacy, Maths, Philosophy, Green Schools, Debating, Lego Therapy, platforms for moderation, leadership and management and story-telling through the curriculum.

80% of speakers were rated good or excellent by staff

Based on feedback from staff, we are already working on our next conference for 31 October 2022 in London Docklands.

PPM Contract for Facilities Management across BPET schools

BPET currently operates a myriad of arrangements in relation to caretaking duties and Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM); the statutory legal testing required. We have the opportunity to test the marketplace for value for money and the chance for us to review the approach that we want to adopt across all schools, so we build consistency.

We are using the EverythingFM framework, to procure a BPET-wide PPM contract to oversee statutory and legal compliance at all schools; providing local and central assurance of compliance alongside a financial benefit for each school. Although ownership of some PPM activity, where compliance can be easily assured, and it is more cost-effective to do so, will remain managed locally by our excellent Site teams.



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BPET 'Let's Go Zero by 2030' Campaign Update



As stated in the last newsletter, we have embarked on two initial work-streams regarding lighting and energy monitoring. We have partnered with eEnergy who visited our schools to identify how we can both save money and procure greener energy in the future.

Working with their sister organisation eLight, we have initially replaced LED lighting in five of our schools – Evendons, Halley House, Kilburn Grange, Rutherford House and Whitehall Park.

We have also started an intelligent metering project which will give us real time, accurate usage data by internal location to allow us to validate our bills and accurately procure our utilities in the future.

Our schools will pay monthly (for MyZeERO) and quarterly (for LED lighting) 'subscription' payments. The financial model ensures that the savings generated over the 7-year period of the contracts more than offset the total value of the monthly payments; we will see savings in-year which will get bigger over the lifetime of the agreements.

MyZeERO will support BPET by telling us when and where our energy wastage is at its highest; allowing schools to identify faults and provide staff and pupils with real time data to support educational conversations around us delivering cultural change.

Both eEnergy and MyZeERO recently joined us at Halley House School to create a short testimonial video

<https://youtu.be/qrXudHCpETI>

It is great to see our pupils getting involved as we look to be at the forefront of the Education sector on the Carbon Neutral, Net Zero agenda.



Whiteknights School, Wokingham joins BPET – our ninth school!



We are delighted to welcome Whiteknights Primary School in Wokingham to BPET. [Whiteknights](#) is a two-form entry school with a Nursery.

Whiteknights was judged as 'Good' in its last full Ofsted report and the most recent data suggests that the school could achieve a higher rating in the future due to its excellent key stage two data. Whiteknights runs one of only 34 [English Hubs](#) across the UK. This provides a great opportunity for all schools in our trust to benefit from this knowledge and experience.



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Welcome to our NEW Central Team Members



JANE AUST
OPERATIONS MANAGER

Jane focuses on asset management, contract management, compliance, ICT, Health and Safety and will be supporting the Office and Site Managers across BPET.

Prior to joining the central team, Jane worked as the Office Manager in one of our schools and she has worked in education, both in classroom and office based roles since 2003.

Jane supports Reading Football Club where she is a season ticket holder.



ZHENZHEN CHEN
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Zhenzhen will support the finance director as Management Accountant. New to the education sector, Zhenzhen will be supported to develop an understanding of BPET and school finance structures.

Zhenzhen has over six years accounting experience; with responsibility for management accounts, PAYE (payroll), VAT and revenue reconciliation.

Zhenzhen likes Yoga, Pilates and plays badminton.



FARZIA HUSSAINI
FINANCE ASSISTANT

Farzia joins us as an apprentice and will be supporting the finance team. She is working under the direction of the management accountant and will be responsible for providing financial administrative services while studying to achieve her ACCA qualification.

Most recently, Farzia has graduated from Hertfordshire University with a BSc in Financial Mathematics and she also has been an accountant assistant for a training and recruitment business. She has also taught Mathematics and English to girls in Afghanistan.

Farzia enjoys running, fitness and reading classical Persian poetry.

JOSE OTERO – FINANCE ASSISTANT



Jose joined BPET in September 2020 to start his apprenticeship whilst studying for A-Levels in Business, Media and Spanish.

Having successfully accomplished this first apprenticeship, Jose has now moved into the finance team and has started a finance apprenticeship whilst he is studying towards completing the professional AAT Level 3 Diploma in Accounting.

Jose's main tasks are dealing with data input and invoices into our finance system and liaising with schools and suppliers. He is also maintaining the finance inbox and allocating emails to the relevant schools, checking supplier statements and requesting copy invoices as appropriate, as well as responding to supplier queries.

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FOCUS: Continued Professional Development as Best Practice Network Delivery Partner

As readers will know from previous newsletters, we at BPET are very proud to invest such a lot of time and effort in our continued professional development (CPD) offerings for our staff. In particular we have a focus on middle and senior leaders through the National Professional Qualifications (NPQs), which we also offer to external participants.



Best Practice Network



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 Programmes you offered

- ✓ Additional Support Offer for New Headteachers
- ✓ EYITT
- ✓ HLTA
- ✓ Leaders Apprenticeship with NPQML
- ✓ Leaders Apprenticeship with NPQSL
- ✓ NASENCO
- ✓ NPQ Spring 2022
- ✓ NPQEL
- ✓ NPQEL (Reformed Executive Leadership)
- ✓ NPQH
- ✓ NPQH (Reformed Headship)
- ✓ NPQLBC (Leading Behaviour & Culture)
- ✓ NPQLT (Leading Teaching)
- ✓ NPQLTD (Leading Teacher Development)
- ✓ NPQML
- ✓ NPQSL
- ✓ NPQSL (Reformed Senior Leadership)

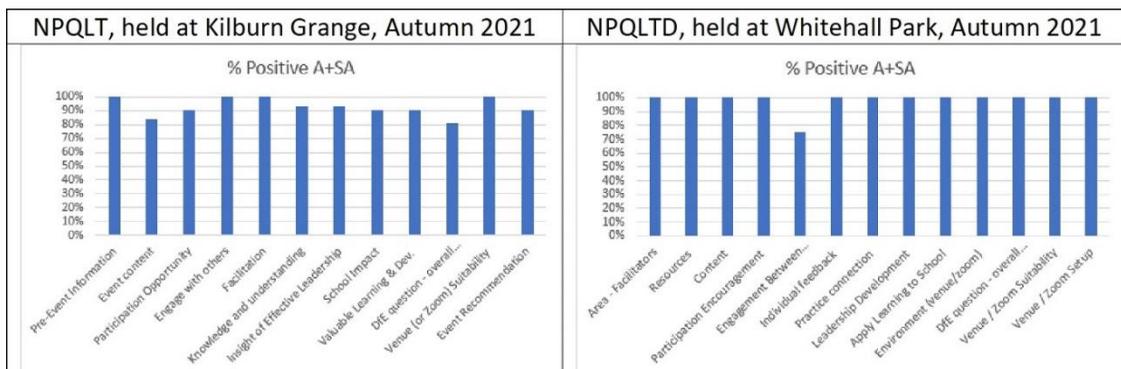
In the last year, we have delivered 17 training programmes as a Best Practice Delivery Partner; most are NPQ's which are the professional training pathway for school leaders.

BPET deliver Best Practice Network ([BPN](#)) programmes under their umbrella organisation 'Outstanding Leaders Partnership' ([OLP](#)). Our own senior leaders and Headteachers have been trained to be course facilitators (trainers). So far, 10 members of staff have been trained and there is an on-going opportunity for all senior leaders to become involved.

Alongside the course content, the programmes enables our leaders to gain facilitation skills, access current industry research, leadership thinking and information on the wider educational climate; all of which they can take back into their own schools and use with BPET staff.

BPN are audited by the Department for Education (DfE) as an 'exceptional provider' and are the largest NPQ provider in the UK. To-date we have trained 193 leaders, 30 of which have been BPET staff members. This year we currently have 159 participants engaging with the programmes and attending our sessions.

As a training provider we are audited, with members of OLP coming to observe our programme delivery and review course feedback. We are delighted to share the most recent feedback we have been given:



For more detailed information on the courses, content and an exciting new qualification which is being developed with input from our newest trust school Whiteknights, visit our [website](#)

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FOCUS: Meet some of the longest BPET Members of Staff

As we celebrate our 10th Anniversary our staff felt it was important to celebrate some of our longest serving staff members. We hope you enjoy learning about them!



NAME: Mr. John Corby
POSITION: Site Manager
SCHOOL: Rutherford House School
JOINED: April 2013

Q: What is your earliest memory of BPET?

My earliest and most exciting memory of BPET was my first day at work! I remember walking up the steps to the front entrance of the school - it was a building site and only had one floor at the time for two reception classes.



I was excited to be part of something new and progressive within the educational sector and looked forward to seeing the school grow over time.

Q: What has been your best achievement?

Every child and their family, teachers and supporting staff matters at Rutherford House school - it is a privilege to work and learn with them in my role as site manager. Keeping the school premises safe and to an excellent standard over the past ten years has been my best achievement. Additionally, being part of the plethora of building and renovation projects over the years and seeing the school come to its fruition.

Q: How has your role changed over the time with the trust?

My role has changed significantly over the ten years, particularly related to gaining extensive experience and knowledge in building renovation, maintenance contracts, working with outside agencies such as Wandsworth health and safety teams which feed into OfSTED inspection as well as gaining a deeper understanding of the policies which drive excellent practice to meet the needs of children, parents/carers, teachers, and support staff in the school.

Q: What is the best thing about working for BPET at RHS?

The best thing about working at Rutherford House School is the local community that it serves. This is reflected in the 'Friends of Rutherford House School' - community is important for children's voices and holistic development - this I feel is at the heart of the school's approach.



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NAME: Mrs. Gemma Donnelly

POSITION: Headteacher

SCHOOL: Braywick Court School

JOINED: April 2014

Q: What is your earliest memory of BPET?

My interview for the headship at Braywick took place at Rutherford House School in November 2013, two months after the school opened. There was one floor open for children, whilst builders finished the extensive work on the other floors. The noise was deafening, but the children and staff were calmly getting on with their day as though nothing was happening.

This was great preparation for 5 years of temporary accommodation and building projects once Braywick opened, which were lots of fun! The ethos of BPET was clear from the outset and it has been a privilege to watch this grow and develop as the years have gone on.

Q: What has been your best achievement?

There have been lots of fantastic moments working for BPET and Braywick Court School: opening to our first ever class of children, (finally getting planning permission), getting an OfSTED grading of outstanding, moving into our new building, and running Home Learning through lockdown which was accessed by hundred of children across the country are some of the highlights. But most importantly, coming to work every day to a place where all staff and children are excited to be there and enjoy the wide range of experience and opportunities on offer to them.

Q: Can you share a great example of Trust Teamwork?

Collaboration is something which has developed more and more as the Trust have grown. This will usually be behind the scenes for the children and families, but staff across the Trust network and collaborate often in lots of ways. Braywick share staff meetings and moderation with Evendons, and in some schools we are even managing to share staff now. Braywick are exciting to be going to PGL with Kilburn Grange next year, and I hope there can be lots more of this type of partnership working in the future for the children to get involved in too.

Q: What excites you about and keeps you working for BPET?

It's great to be part of an organisation which is always looking for ways to grow, develop and improve and aspirational in its outlook. There is lots of specialist support from the central team and professional development available for staff, both is much appreciated by me as Headteacher.

Q: How do you think being part of BPET enhances your staff and pupils?

The professional development opportunities available for teachers are excellent and hard to find elsewhere in the current climate. It works well that schools are largely autonomous and can deliver what is most needed for their communities, but the motto 'Learn, Enjoy, Succeed' is important to us and runs through everything we do. We are encouraged to make learning fun and enrich our curriculum with a wide a range of experiences as possible. This is brilliant for all children and will hopefully give them lots of lasting memories from their primary education.



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NAME: Ms. Claire Syms
POSITION: Headteacher
SCHOOL: Halley House School
JOINED: April 2015

Q: What is your earliest memory of BPET?

My interview at Rutherford House School for the Headteacher Designate position at Halley House School, shortly followed by standing on the top floor of Halley (now our Reception classroom), wearing a hard hat and high-vis amidst a fair amount of rubble, whilst discussing the finer points of the proposed educational direction of the school with Mark Greatrex, CEO.

I also have some very vivid (although not necessarily fond) memories of tender processes for ICT contractors and folders full of Mechanical & Electrical plans during the pre-opening building work phase! Opening our school doors on our very first day, with our first cohort of 31 and a sum total of 5 adults definitely feels like a once-in-a-lifetime experience – what a privilege!

Q: What has been your best achievement(s)?

Being part of the school from its founding days, up to capacity with our first Year 6 cohort this academic year, alongside opening our first Nursery class in September 2021; watching our pupils go from strength to strength and accomplish so much; growing our hugely successful, passionate and committed staff team; embedding the school in our community and working in partnership with our community members; sorry I couldn't stick to just one!

Q: Can you share a great example of Trust Teamwork?

Teamwork within the Trust is exemplified in many ways, whether it's collaborative CPD and networking, conducting developmental learning reviews or securing value for money (and time) with shared practices, policies and contracts across our schools. The knowledge, expertise and support from the Trust Central Team also underpins our work as leaders at both a local and group level. There was a huge amount of teamwork involved in opening our Nursery provision, from which our children are now reaping the rewards!

Q: What excites you about and keeps you working for BPET?

The autonomy afforded to our individual schools by BPET means I am constantly excited about what our vision, values, curriculum and wider provision can offer to our community; the success of our children never ceases to astound me. BPET and Halley have forged a reputation for a dynamic and progressive approach to free school education and I know there is much more to come!

Q: How do you think being part of BPET enhances your staff and pupils?

Being part of a wider network has always had many benefits. Staff have access to a wide range of stimulating, relevant CPD, and opportunities for career progression within and beyond the individual school in which they are based, as well as a strong focus on collaboration and sharing good practice. Pupils are afforded opportunities to meet, work with and even compete against Trust schools. Pupils are at the heart of every BPET school, and have the security of knowing that all decisions are made to ensure that every day they Learn, Enjoy, Succeed.



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NAME: Ms. Helen Khinich
POSITION: Deputy Headteacher
SCHOOL: Kilburn Grange School
JOINED: September 2015

Q: What is your earliest memory of BPET?

My earliest memory of BPET is when I was given the opportunity to visit one of the other schools, Whitehall Park. I was impressed at how the school was thriving and had successfully established relationships in the local community despite the fact that it was only open for a short period of time and they were in their temporary accommodation.

Q: What has been your best achievement?

I was one of the founding members of the senior leadership team who opened Kilburn Grange School in September 2015. It was one of the most exciting and unique experiences of my career. This in itself is one of the best achievements but it was so rewarding when our school secured a good in the OfSTED inspection in July 2018.

Q: Can you share a great example of Trust Teamwork?

The CPD offer across BPET is an excellent example of collaboration across the Trust. This is a great way to share expertise across BPET and forge relationships with other staff across the schools.

Q: What excites you about and keeps you working for BPET?

I love that BPET values the autonomy of each school in the Trust and acknowledges each school in its own right. BPET empowers the leaders of each individual school to meet the needs of each local community and this is definitely an important principle for me.

Q: How do you think being part of BPET enhances your staff and pupils?

The BPET CPD offer is absolutely one of the biggest advantages of being in the Trust. The fact that staff can share their collective expertise across the Trust and learn from each other enables each school to be the best that they can be.



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FOCUS: Meet some of the longest BPET Members of Staff



NAME: Mrs. Alison Thomas

POSITION: Office Manager

SCHOOL: Kilburn Grange School

JOINED: September 2015

Q: What is your earliest memory of BPET?

Seeing the first Reception Class flourish and develop into amazing Year Six students!

Q: Can you share a great example of Trust Teamwork?

I feel very supported by central team – particularly Finance - who are always available to support with any queries.

Q: What excites you about and keeps you working for BPET?

My admin team who are fabulous.

Q: How has your role changed over the time with the trust?

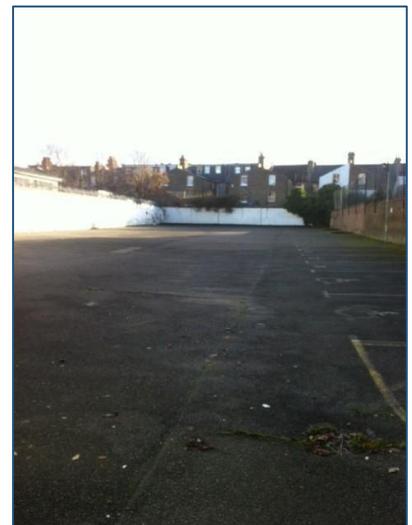
I hope I have developed and grown with experience, my aim as Nigel Battey teaches us 'is to develop my team so I am totally dispensable'.

What is the best thing about working at KGS?

I live minutes away and walk to work!

DAY 1 – RUTHERFORD HOUSE SCHOOL – FEBRUARY 2012

Where it all started for BPET



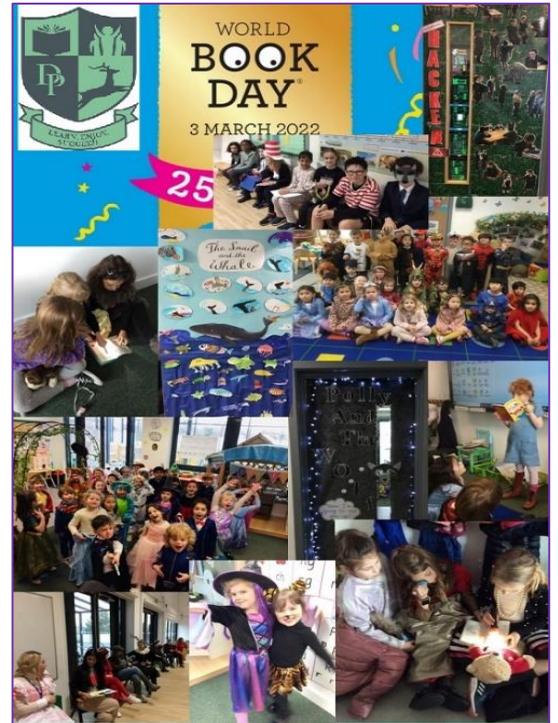


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Many of our schools celebrated the 25th World Book Day In March!



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Years 3 and 4 Girls Football Tournament – March 2022

The sun shone as Watling Park School played host to seven Year 3 and 4 girls football teams from across the trust.



Braywick Court School were the winners!

Rutherford House were runners-up, with Halley House third, Kilburn Grange fourth, Deer Park (Team 1) fifth, Watling Park sixth and Deer Park (Team 2) seventh.

We look forward to welcoming all schools to take part next year!

Look out for more Inter-Trust Competitions in the summer edition...



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It's great to see our schools taking part in competitive sports



Years 5 and 6 Football teams recently played neighbours Eveline Day School.



The KS2 Girls Football Team won the Wandsworth School Games! They represented Wandsworth in the Year 5 and 6 London Youth Games, coming 9th overall – well done!



Years 5 and 6 Netball teams were both Runners-Up in the Wandsworth School Games!

Rutherford House School



KS2 Cross-Country at Finton House = 9 Top 10 finishes, including Two Silver medals and Two Bronze medals



Year 3 played their first competitive Tag Rugby against Dolphin House and had a fabulous time!



Bellevue Place
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Braywick Court KS2 Football Team

Winners of the local regional competition, the team have reached the ESFA South West Finals, which will be in Bristol before Easter!



Whitehall Park Yr5 Tag Rugby

Came second in Islington inter-schools tournament



Deer Park Hockey Team

Came third in all-London finals, the only state school to reach the finals. DPS won every game in their London regional tournament without conceding any goals!