

CST - the Voice of School Trusts

CST is shaping the education policy agenda for school trusts. Bringing together trusts in England from every region and of every size, CST has a strong, strategic presence with access to government and policy makers to drive real change for education on the big issues that matter most.



“Holding trust
on behalf of
children”



ADVOCATE

Standing up for trusts

- A new narrative for school trusts, focusing on trusts as education charities that run schools to give children a better future.
- Evidence to the Education Select Committee and influencing across the political spectrum.
- Wide-ranging presence in the trade and national press including interviews with BBC News and Sky News.
- Strong social media presence promoting evidence and rebutting inaccurate messages about school trusts.

Speaking authoritatively to government and regulators

- Speaking authoritatively to ministers and special advisors on a range of issues, particularly through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Vice Chair of the Headteacher Standards Review Group and represented on several influential standing and advisory groups for the Department for Education, including NLE and NLG review groups.

Making and influencing policy

- Supported and influenced high profile policy - cited in press releases and official guidance from the Department for Education and Ofqual.
- Working directly with ministers and senior officials, particularly during COVID-19.
- Influential work with the Regional Schools Commissioners for example setting up governance leaders' learning sets.

Leading the debate

- Influential 'white paper' on the future shape of the education system in England.
- Defining the systems of meaning within which school trusts operate.
- Locating school trusts as new civic structures.

CONNECT

Connecting you to government, regulators and policy makers

- High profile round tables for our members, including with the Secretary of State for Education.
- Round table consultation events with senior civil servants' pre-policy announcements, for example on the arrangements for Ofsted visits in the Autumn.
- Surveys and virtual meetings to engage members in our policy responses to COVID-19.

Connecting you to each other

- Regular fortnightly zoom calls in open forum enabling executives and chairs to speak directly to us and each other in a confidential forum as part of an 'agile' response to COVID-19.
- Convened several networks, including for system leaders of the larger trusts, improvement leaders, governance professionals, special school trusts and a London trust leaders' network.
- Working with several local/sub-regional networks to aggregate insights into national policy.

Connecting you to what you need to know

- Daily briefings during the 124 days of COVID-19 lockdown making sure you had the information you needed and getting answers for you where you didn't.
- A comprehensive guidance and improvement hub, including improvement frameworks, finance and use of resources, governance and board evaluation, operational performance and self-evaluation, risk and workforce.
- Trust, an influential digital journal published every half term - the first of its kind - for executive and governance leaders featuring high-profile contributors.

SUPPORT

CST Professional Development

- A prominent and popular Governance Leadership Programme custom-built for trustees - we believe governing a trust is fundamentally different from governing a local authority-maintained school.
- A carefully designed support offer using the knowledge, capability and capacity of a small number of carefully chosen sector-leading commercial partners who are committed to building sector capacity and supporting improvement.
- Popular and innovative masterclass programme covering topics including your scheme of delegation, joining and merging, growing sustainably, the trust dividend with Sir David Carter.
- Influential training seminars for National Leaders of Governance, supported by the Department for Education.
- National Teacher Accreditation (NTA) - the only independent, national appropriate body operating under constitutional arrangements to Ministers, offering a high quality NQT accreditation service to all types of schools and trusts. www.nta.org.uk

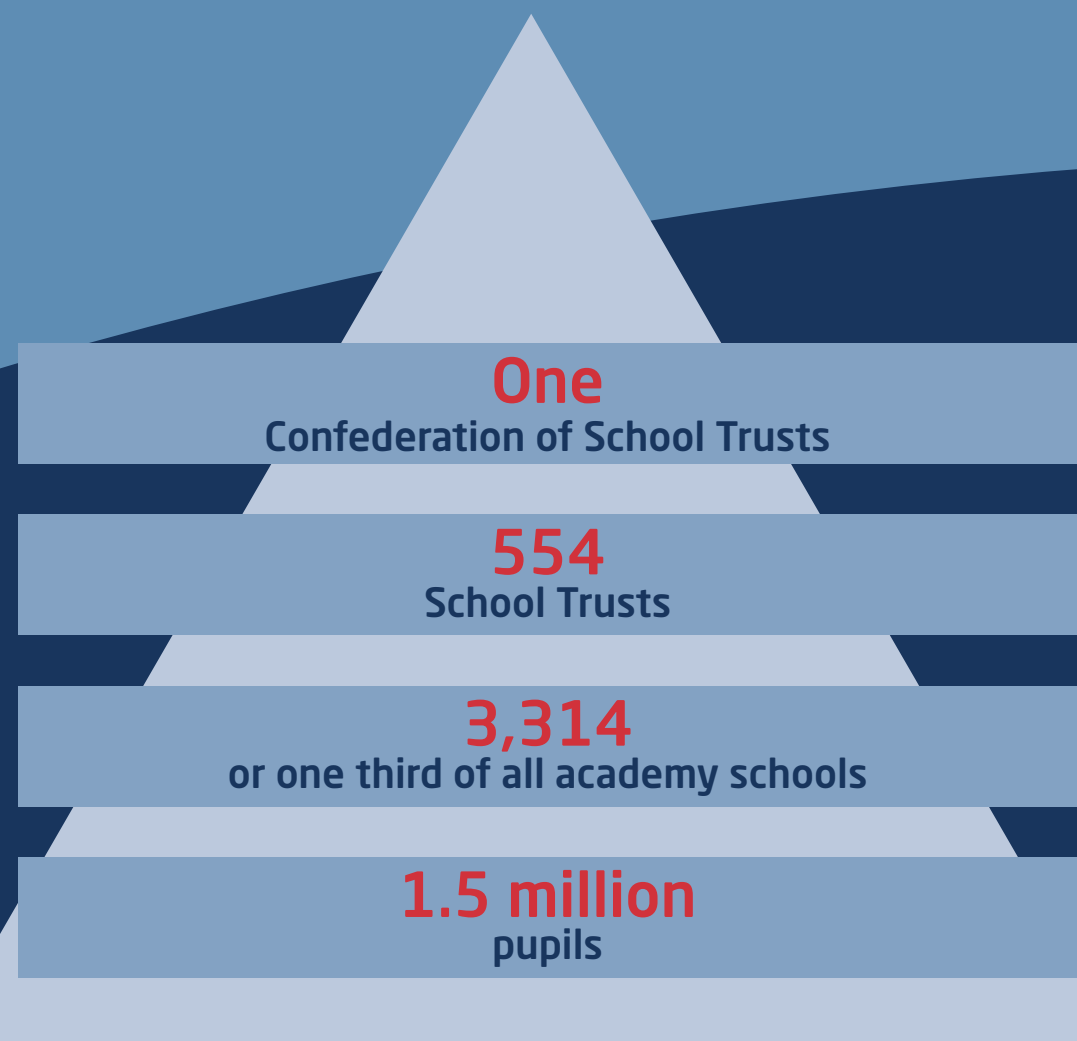
Governance Advisory Service for Trusts

- A confidential and quality-assured governance advisory service run by specialists in academy and multi-academy trust governance.
- Bespoke governance reviews for trust boards delivered by trust experts.

Expert guidance and tools

- A range of guidance documents commanding the respect of members.
- Improvement tools including the influential Improvement Capacity Framework for Trust Governance, now being used by RSCs.
- A dedicated portal for CST members on the Stone King LLP website with access to a full set of model policies for school trusts.

Our year in numbers



About us

Our governance and accountability

The Confederation of School Trusts (like the NHS Confederation which is the sector body and voice of NHS trusts) is the **sector body** that brings together and speaks on behalf of school trusts. We are a charitable company, registered with the Charity Commission. Our charitable purpose, as set out in our Articles of Association, is "the advancement of education for public benefit."

How we are funded

Like other sector bodies (e.g. NHS Confederation), income is generated via several different activities. Our main income is membership fees, but we also generate commercial

We are governed by a Board of Trustees and are subject to the regulations of the Charity Commission and accountable to our members.

We are strictly apolitical. We work with the government of the day, political parties and politicians across the spectrum to advance education for public benefit.

income through CST Professional Development and our platinum partners scheme. Traded income is re-invested in the delivery of the CST's charitable objectives.

What our members say about us

"For any MATs and SATs out there who aren't members of @CSTvoice, I would strongly urge you to sign up today.....@CSTvoice also have MAHOOSIVE ears. They listen and advocate, relentlessly".

Nexus Multi Academy Trust

"Can't speak highly enough of the support @CSTvoice has provided. Thank you @LeoraCruddas"

Brigantia Learning Trust

"You are doing an amazing job. Membership of CST was my best and most lucky decision of the year"

Lighthouse Schools Partnership

"These briefings are first rate, and highly recommended. Our school and trust leaders value them immensely. Thank you LeoraCruddas and all @CSTvoice"

John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust

"Just joined the Confederation of School Trusts. @CSTvoice The support and advice available to trust boards is fantastic. Highly recommend. Excellent work"

The Olive Tree Primary School Bolton

"Thank youfor everything you're doing on behalf of #CSTCivicTrusts everywhere"

Maritime Academy Trust

"Joining CST at the start of all of this was the best decision our Trust could have made. The support and guidance has made a huge difference"

Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust

Together we are stronger

Our members are our mandate and the reason we have established our credibility as the sector body so quickly.

JOIN US TODAY

Call: **0115 917 0142** | Email: **admin@cstuk.org.uk**

Visit our website: **www.cstuk.org.uk**

A Year Of Impact 2020



**Confederation
of School Trusts**