

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

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.

Influencing policy

- Working directly with ministers and senior officials (particularly during COVID-19) and on the future shape of the education system.
- Influential work with the Regional Schools Commissioners, for example, the professional development series for Chairs.
- Work with Ofsted on evidence of the impact of trusts during the pandemic.
- Work with the Cabinet Office's National Leadership Centre to shape the Public Leaders Report.
- Research with Nottingham University on System Leadership in Disruptive Times – the power of trusts to support their schools.

Leading the thinking in education

- Influential Bridge to the Future paper with widespread engagement from members, senior policy makers, regulators and the inspectorate.
- Bridge to the Future Series including Knowledge-building: School Improvement at Scale; Powerful knowledge as social justice, The future of assessment and qualifications, Looking to the Future without Trashing the Past.
- Development of the Academy Trust Governance Code which will be a sector-defining standard of governance for School Trusts.
- Equalities work including the powerful On Diversity publication and The Listening Project designed by Linbert Spencer to help leaders of majority ethnic origin to increase their understanding of their minority ethnic counterparts.

CONNECT

Connecting you to government, regulators and policy makers

- 32 agile seminars in the 2020-21 academic year addressing current issues of the day.
- Roundtables with the Secretary of State and Ministers.
- Seminars with Shadow Education Ministers.

Connecting you to each other

- Wednesday morning zoom calls in open forum enabling CST members to speak directly to us and each other in a confidential forum as part of an 'agile' response to COVID-19.
- Professional networks including our influential Directors of Improvement Network – with over 500 registrations.

- Knowledge Exchange, where we share CST member documents with wider sector relevance.

Connecting you to what you need to know

- 165 morning briefings (3 times per week during term time) 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, 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.

Some of our speakers in 2021



Anna Trethewey



Becky Francis



Dominic Herrington



Jonathan Simons

SUPPORT

CST Professional development

- 1,400 delegates at our Annual Conference at which the Secretary of State set the ambition for the future of the education system.
- More than 100 delegates on our Governance Leadership Programme custom-built for trustees – our new and innovative Chairs' Leadership Forum is the successor programme for 2021-22.
- More than 850 on our popular and innovative Masterclass Programme covering topics including your scheme of delegation, joining and merging, growing sustainably, the trust dividend with Sir David Carter.
- Development of a fabulous new Essential Trustee Programme for 2021-22.
- National Teacher Accreditation (NTA) – the only independent, national appropriate body offering a high quality ECT accreditation service to all types of schools and trusts.

Governance Advisory Service for Trusts

- A confidential and quality-assured Governance Advisory Service run by specialists in academy and multi-academy trust governance.
- Bespoke and quality assured External Reviews of Governance for trust boards delivered by trust experts.

Expert guidance and tools

- A range of guidance documents commanding the respect of members, including guidance specific to Covid-19.
- Improvement tools including the influential Assurance Framework for Trust Governance, now being used by RSCs.
- The development of a sector-leading Executive Salary Benchmarking Research which will generate an annual national benchmark report to support remuneration decisions.

Our year in numbers

One
Confederation of School Trusts

797
School Trusts

5,297
more than half of all academy schools

2.5 million
pupils

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."

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.

How we are funded

Like other sector bodies, income is generated via several different activities. Our main income is membership fees, but we also generate commercial 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



"The unity & collaboration achieved across our Trust has been incredibly inspiring and sincere thanks to @LeoraCruddas @CSTvoice"

Northern Star Academies Trust

1,400
delegates
at our Annual
Conference



"Being part of @CSTvoice family has been a wonderfully supportive and inspiring experience and so vital at this challenging time for the sector. Thank you for all you do for us."

**Stephen Chamberlain, CEO,
Active Learning Trust**



"CST has been an essential partner for so many Trusts during the Covid pandemic and continue to be a strong voice for the sector moving forward. @LeoraCruddas @CSTvoice"

**Gillian Kemp, CEO,
University Schools Trust**

More
than **850**
on our popular
and innovative
Masterclass
Programme



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

**Mike Westerdale, CEO,
Brigantia Learning Trust**



"Thank you @CSTvoice for supporting schools in changeable times. As always, @CSTvoice can be relied upon to send out summaries of the important points. Invaluable support which is much appreciated."

Horncastle Education Trust

165
morning
briefings



"Many thanks to everyone @CSTvoice from everyone @BedsSchTrust for all the advice, guidance + support during this most extraordinary year #trustedpartner #gratitude"

**Alan Lee, CEO,
Bedfordshire School Trust**



"@CSTvoice have helped us through some very challenging times at @heartacadtrust and were there when we needed them."

**David Morris, CEO,
HEART Academies Trust**

500
Registrations

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: **cstuk.org.uk**

A Year Of Impact 2021



**Confederation
of School Trusts**