

Case Study: Bridge Schools Trust



Adrian Massey – Chief Executive Bridge Schools Trust

Hello, I'm Adrian Massey. I'm the chief executive of Bridge schools. We are a collection of 14 schools in Mid and East Cornwall.

Nick Hart – Trustee, Bridge Schools Trust

My name is Nick Hart and I'm a fairly recent trustee to the Bridge Schools Trust. My background is education. I'm a former headteacher.

Why do you prioritise arts, culture and creativity across your trust and what has the impact been?

Adrian Massey

We all aspire to achieving creativity in everything that we do whatever it might be. So English, Maths, IT, DT, Science, whatever the subject is, but I think that's what's helped us to raise the game in terms of attendance, our progress data and our attainment data are all above national.

The arts is really important for children's opportunities now and for the future. What are these jobs that children are going to do that we don't yet know what they are?

Probably will involve technology of some sort. But they will involve creative thinking, they'll involve interpersonal skills, and communication. Our children like coming to school. They like the opportunities that they are presented with. They like their teachers, which is always good. And they like working together. You need your

attainment to be as high as possible. Where Ofsted are looking more widely at the broader curriculum, we're already head on that because we never stopped looking at the broader curriculum.

Nick Hart, Trustee

The Bridge had a recent Ofsted of all their schools and Ofsted had identified that one of the key values underpinning their school was learning through creativity.

And they said: "This is one of your key values, what are you doing about it?"

We think this here ought to be a priority of yours to see how you will engage your pupils with creativity, so that they are learning through creativity. This was terrific because it was absolutely aligning the school priorities with something which was really achievable.

Adrian Massey

We try as often as we can to do things together as a group of schools so that might be like a mini-Olympics that we've done, it can be an arts production that we've done as a collection of schools and I think children relating to other children in different contexts in schools also broadens their outlook and raises their aspirations as to what they're trying to achieve through the arts.