



Inspire Education Trust
Together we achieve, individually we grow

TRUST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



A photograph of a man in a white dress shirt and a dark tie with a small logo, smiling and looking upwards. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'Vision and Rationale' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the lower-left corner.

Vision and Rationale

Vision and Rationale

Our Vision:

At Inspire Education Trust we provide an exceptional, inclusive education that empowers everyone in our communities to flourish, grow and achieve. Together, we live life in all its fullness.

Our vision expresses our commitment to collective excellence and individual flourishing.

Inspired by the Church of England's Flourishing Together framework, we see every school as a civic anchor and every child as a contributor to the common good.



Building the Case for Community Engagement

We are building our strategy on a clear evidence base that places community engagement at the heart of school improvement and pupil flourishing. The Confederation of School Trusts notes that civic trusts “collaborate to create public value,” and this echoes the research cited by Forum Strategy in its Provoke programme ‘when trusts move beyond transactional community activity to transformational partnerships, outcomes for pupils improve’

This aligns with sector thought-leadership:

- As Schools Week argued in “CEOs must help communities realise their full potential” (2023), trusts can become “system leaders for civic renewal,” mobilising their scale and resources for social impact.
- The Chartered College of Teaching highlights that “the power of community engagement in our schools” lies



in deep, sustained relationships that support learning, wellbeing and belonging, rather than one-off projects.

- The Dixons Open Source piece on Civic Responsibility shows how trust-wide approaches to community partnerships can instil shared values, social action and leadership skills in pupils.

Shaping Future Citizens

Looking ahead to the Class of 2040, we want our learners to leave school not only achieving highly, but also understanding themselves as active, responsible citizens shaped by enriching experiences, cultural, creative, spiritual and civic.

We are committed to poverty-proofing these opportunities so that all pupils, regardless of background, can participate fully. We are building the future we want our learners to inherit. This includes prioritising inclusion, representation and voice across our schools.



Research from the Runnymede Trust and Young Foundation reminds us that:

“Community engagement must be rooted in reciprocity, where pupils are not just recipients, but contributors to civic life.”

Our approach integrates community insight, respects local distinctiveness and empowers young people to see that they matter, not just in school, but in shaping their communities and the wider world.



RUNNYMEDE



Strategic Objectives and Targets (within the next three years)

- Academies know, understand and deliver on their civic roles and responsibilities.
- Being a pivotal part of our regions and supporting our communities.
- Ensure stakeholder voices are heard and taken into consideration in decision-making.
- Inspire Academies are schools of choice in the community, and our student numbers are at capacity or over-subscribed.
- Every Academy has a community strategy.
- Looking for further ways that the Trust can benefit and work with community partners and alliances





Implementation Plan



Our Strategic Plan To Make This Happen

We will **enhance the contributions of employers** and the wider community to the lives of **our individual academies**.

We will develop a platform for **alumni to re-engage with schools** and to support the work of the Trust.

All Academies will have a **community strategy action plan**, with objectives **placing each school at the heart of its community**, enabling them to become not only a hub for learning, but a community resource for life-long learning.

The action plan will possess measurable aims and objectives that show how the school and the wider Trust **engage in collaborative projects with our partners, local communities, businesses and civic partners** to deliver change and improvements to education and the wider society.

Each Academy will ensure that their **facilities are promoted** and available for their local communities in terms of lifelong education, health, sports, arts and more general community usage.

Priority Areas and Next Steps



Strategic Priority Areas 2025-2026

1. Strengthen Community Partnerships

Rationale: Strong partnerships can widen curriculum, increase civic pride, and support mental health and wellbeing.

Actionable Steps:

- Map existing partners.
- Identify gaps.
- Co-develop an annual partnership calendar.
- Establish shared outcome measures.



2. Embed Pupil Voice & Experience

Rationale: Pupils are key stakeholders. Voice-led projects enhance belonging and agency.

Actionable Steps:

- Survey pupils on enrichment wishes.
- Launch a '10 things to do at our school' initiative.



Strategic Priority Areas 2025-2026

3. Civic Contribution and Local Regeneration

Rationale: As anchor institutions, MATs should shape their local place identity and economy.

Actionable Steps:

- Promote local employment pipelines
- Annual 'Civic Week' across schools
- Develop 5 new community partnerships across the Trust



4. Engage Families as Co-Educators

Rationale: Community engagement starts with families. Trust-building at home improves attendance, outcomes, and cultural capital.

Actionable Steps:

- Parent forums and feedback
- Parent learning workshops



Strategic Priority Areas 2025-2026


5. Measurable Impact & Reporting

Rationale: Transparency builds trust and enables accountability for community impact.

Actionable Steps:

- Publish annual Community Impact Report
- Establish KPIs for engagement (events, feedback, reach)





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