

# ***Trust School Developments***

***Presentation to Ponteland Town Council  
Summer 2009***

Ponteland Community High School  
A Specialist Language College



Ponteland High School – Language College  
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# **Purposes of this session:**

- **What a Trust school is ... and isn't**
- **The advantages for schools and the local community**
- **The reasons why we should change status**
- **Question and discussion time**



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**TRUST AND FOUNDATION SCHOOLS ARE NOT:**

- Academies
- GM schools
- Independent schools
- Involved in an admissions free for all
- Funded differently from community schools
- Run by businesses
- Separated from the LA
- Able to avoid LA reorganisation plans

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## **Trust school:**

- **A new type of foundation school similar to the Voluntary Aided model (e.g. Faith Schools)**
- **An LA maintained school –funded on that basis**
- **The land and buildings are held in Trust**
- **Has a budget delegated to the governing body**
- **Follows the national curriculum**
- **Adheres to national agreements on pay and conditions**



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# **The Vision for the Trust**

- **Systems Leadership.**
- **Extended schools.**
- **Raise achievement.**
- **Young people being better local and 'global' citizens.**



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## **Why Become a Trust School?**

- **A maintained foundation school supported by a charitable Trust which will “... forge a long term relationship with external partners to create a new source of dynamism and to help raise standards”. Dept for Children, Schools & Families.**



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## **Why Become a Trust School?**

- **The aim is to use the experience, energy and expertise from other schools, professions and the *wider community* as a lever to raise standards in schools**
- **Part of the national agenda on *diversity and new systems leadership***



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- **The *why-fix-it-if-isn't-broken* argument :**
  - “let’s ignore what is going on around us and wait for something to hit us in the future”.
  - **People and organisations get better and improve because they “*scan the horizon*” and prepare for change.**

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- **Federations and Trusts are growing - Hexham, Haydon Bridge, Ashington, Bedlingtonshire, Astley, Morpeth, Amble and Alnwick**
- **Academies in Blyth and Hirst**
- **Re-organisation in Cramlington.**
- **Can Ponteland stand outside of these changes?**
- **Change is all around us – we ignore it at our peril.**

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- ***A Co-operative Trust***
- ***Stakeholders Council***— teachers, support worker, parents, and community representatives.
- ***Responsive, accountable and representative***



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- **Single school Trust**
- **Cohesion and collaboration within the Ponteland Partnership.**
- **Represented on the Stakeholder Council**
- **The high school in a Trust ... and the partner middle and first schools represented in the Stakeholder Council**
- **Influence on the Trust's vision and development but without the formality of Trust membership.**
- **The Future – more schools taking full membership of the Trust**



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- Trusts are charitable organisation which can ***raise funds*** and apply for different types of finance from which schools are barred.
- Nationally, educational trusts raise millions of pounds. Waiting until 2016 without any building development will hinder the progress we are making here.
- Imagine being in a position where we can raise funds for ... a new sports centre, an assembly/exams hall and so on?
- Shall we do nothing except sit on the touchline watching the other partnerships being re-built around us?

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