

# Annual Report to Parents 2019

## Dear Parents and Guardians,

I'd like to start by welcoming new families to Beckfoot Trust. I hope that you feel excited to have secured a place for your child within one of our schools. The purpose of the report is to update you on the progress of the Trust.

We have ten schools in our Trust. All are located in the Bradford area and serve their local community. Our aim is to provide great schools for our pupils to grow up and learn in.

All of our schools are improving, some rapidly, as a result of working together as one team of schools. The intention is that every Beckfoot Trust school will achieve an Ofsted judgement of good or better. You can see on the right where we have got to.

School	Type of School	When they joined the Trust	Ofsted rating since joining the Trust
Beckfoot School	Secondary	2013	Outstanding (2014)
Hazelbeck Special	Special	2013	Outstanding (2015/2019)
Beckfoot Upper Heaton	Secondary	2015	Good (2018)
Beckfoot Allerton	Primary	2016	Requires Improvement (2019)
Beckfoot Heaton	Primary	2016	Good (2019)
Beckfoot Oakbank	Secondary	2016	Requires Improvement (2019)
Beckfoot Thornton	Secondary	2016	Requires Improvement (2019)
Beckfoot Phoenix	Special	2017	Not yet Inspected
Beckfoot Priestthorpe	Primary	2017	Not yet Inspected
Beckfoot Nessfield	Primary	2018	Not yet Inspected

## Some of our highlights:

- Very positive Ofsted judgements for those of our schools that have been inspected since joining the Trust. Two are now outstanding schools, others have progressed to being good, whilst others still requiring improvement are clearly improving at pace.
- In terms of results this year:
  - > At the age of five, 72% of our children achieved a 'good level of development', up from 68% in 2016. This says a great deal about what our schools are doing in nursery and reception years. These children are well placed to do well at primary school.
  - > By the age of eleven, 50% of our children achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to only 34% in 2016. This prepares them well for secondary school.
- > By the age of sixteen, 55% of our young people achieved a GCSE at Level 4 or above in both English and Maths compared to 48% in 2016.
- > At eighteen the average A level grade in our schools was a C grade. Our newly established Trust 6th Form based at Beckfoot, Beckfoot Oakbank and Beckfoot Thornton will raise standards further.
- We have established annual or bi-annual Trust-wide events linked to sports, arts and debating.
  - > Well done Beckfoot Allerton for winning the Trust Debating competition this year. They were amazing. All of our schools are developing more and more learning opportunities for children to talk about ideas. Talk matters!
  - > We love the Sports and Arts. Last year we had our first ever Trust Arts Festival where children from all our schools showed their talents in dance, drama, art and music. It was great.

> Sports Day was fantastic with Year 6 and Year 7 children from all of our schools competing. Winners included children from all our schools. It was a particular joy to see children from our special schools competing against others from our mainstream schools and winning! Overall Beckfoot Priestthorpe and Beckfoot schools took the honours this year.

- We really believe in empowering our pupils. We want them to have a view about the world they live in. We held our first ever Trust-wide student conference in February 2019 which was brilliant. Student leaders challenged us to make sure our schools are fit for children growing up in the 21st century. The world is rapidly changing, the pressures on young people are more complex and of course the world of work is very different. We need to make sure our schools move with the times, keep our children safe, develop them as people, make sure they have ambition and prepare them for a great future.

- A similar theme has been evident within our Trust Conferences for our staff. Out of the Conference this year we have created a new vision for our Trust 'Creating Remarkable Schools'. You can find it on our website at <http://www.beckfoottrust.org/?p=62808>.

Finally, this year we are going to explore in detail how we can do more to engage with you as families. We know that a child has the best chance of succeeding in school if they know their family and school are working together as their support team. To start us off it would be really helpful to get some feedback from you on what you feel we are doing well, and how we can get better. The link to the Survey is below. I promise it won't take more than ten minutes of your time!

**Parent survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BeckfootTrustfamilysurvey>

**David Horn,**  
CEO Beckfoot Trust

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## Annual Report: Beckfoot Thornton 2019-20

**We are very proud of our school community at Beckfoot Thornton School. Our students enjoy coming to school.**

It is calm and friendly and students feel safe and cared for in an environment where they can learn. They know that our school is improving and because of this they are achieving more.

Our students are supported whatever their need maybe with focused activities that help to improve pupils' understanding of mental health issues and the world of work. Staff care about our students and are motivated and respected. We have a good sixth form with dedicated students that aspire to make the most of the opportunities on offer in

school and with Beckfoot Trust Sixth form. To complement our challenging and engaging curriculum students have had the opportunity to partake in a wide range of personal development opportunities enjoying an abundance of exciting trips including visiting Old Trafford, Wembley Arena, Worcester College, York Railway Museum, St George's Hall, Bradford Winter Games at Hanson Academy, Cartwright Hall, Leeds City College, Buckden House, Leeds Trinity University, York Railway Museum, The Rose Theatre, York, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions to Blackhills.

A diverse range of providers have come to work with students in school, including

Newcastle University Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths Project (STEM), First Give, NYBEP careers interviews, Bardays Life Skills, Talk the Talk Oracy workshops, Junior Engineering Engagement Project (JEEP) The Transformation Trust, Oxford University and The Brilliant Club.

Students have enjoyed participating in a range of opportunities to support charities including raising money through bake sales for First Give and Children in Need and by collecting food items for the Bradford Metropolitan Food Bank.

In May, we launched our Beckfoot Thornton Radio station. Students have really taken ownership, learning how to operate the

equipment, creating jingles, deciding what to broadcast and of course performing on the radio themselves.

Please get in touch if you would like to find out more about our Beckfoot Thornton School community, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

**Jeremy Richardson**  
Headteacher

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**Beckfoot  
Thornton**

