

Jesmond Park Academy - Principal

Some contextual information, relating to the development of Gosforth Academies Multi Academy Trust

Constant change and a plethora of often chaotic and conflicting demands have always been part of education.

The last 10 years have brought significant developments to what was then Gosforth High School.

In 2005, supporting a nearby middle school in Ofsted "special measures" led to rapid improvements at the school followed swiftly by federation and the journey leading both schools to "outstanding" alongside harmonisation of systems and practices.

As a federation we became the 1st converters to Academy status in Newcastle upon Tyne and (like all schools nationally) saw the end of "specialist status" (We had been a Language College, Training School and Leadership Partner School).

The age of austerity has brought times of ever more biting and challenging budgets.

The pace of change has accelerated rapidly as we develop as a multi academy trust. We were awarded a new 9 -16 middle/high school (Gosforth Great Park Academy) which is due to open in 2021. More recently, we were awarded an additional new school (Callerton Academy), an 11-16 school which is also scheduled to open in 2021. Already there are hints that feeder schools in these areas may seek to become members of the MAT at some point – possibly not at too distant a date.

Following a period of support from us, the former Seaton Burn community College (now North Gosforth Academy) joined our family of schools in January 2018. In addition Heaton Manor School, following a period of our support, joined our trust in August 2019. It is now known as Jesmond Park Academy.

Within 5 years we could easily be responsible for the education of 10,000 children.