

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you with some exciting new developments in the Skills for Life Trust that will come into action at the start of the new academic year, September 2022.

Over the past 2 years the world has gone through a process of change. This has been largely due to the Covid 19 pandemic. These changes have impacted us all in some form, whether at home, in school or at work. The Skills for Life Trust needs to ensure that it moves with the ever changing global, national and local picture. This needs to happen in order to best meet the needs of our students, staff and the local communities of which our schools are central to.

To put this into some context, youth unemployment in Medway is 18% and in Gravesham it is at 20% (ONS, Feb, 2022). This rose sharply over the pandemic period. Between 2017 and 2021, the proportion of 6 to 16-year-olds with a probable mental health condition has increased from one in nine to one in six (Mental Health of Children and Young People in England, Sept 2021). Lastly, the Met Life Employee Benefits Study (2021) highlighted that "relationships", "trust" and "employee wellbeing" is now having the greatest positive impact on employees post pandemic.

As a result, the Trust has reviewed its current mission statement and values. A period of reflection and consultation has taken place since October 2021 and this has resulted in the development of a new Vision Statement, Mission Statement and set of 9 core values that will underpin all we do from September.

I want to take this opportunity to present them to you:

Vision:

Skills for Life: "Preparing you for the future"

Mission Statement:

"To nurture and develop all people in our Trust so that they reach their full potential academically, vocationally and personally, including being positive role models for future generations in the community. We will achieve this by providing high quality values-based education that cultivates employability and life skills making our schools the first choice for young people, staff, parents, carers and employers."

Trust Values, embraced by all:



The Vision, Mission and Values will be embedded within our daily practice across all our primary and secondary schools. This will be done through our unique Skills for Life assembly programme, primary RECIPE passports, employee engagement events, rich values based Skills for Life curriculum, business mentoring and through our day to day actions in and out of the classroom.

The Skills for Life staff team are looking forward to working with your son/daughter/ward on embedding these values, preparing them for the future and welcome you as part of the Skills for Life family.

Your sincerely

M. Campbell

Marek Campbell
Skills for Life Manager