

Department for Education Approves Partnership Between Impact Education Multi Academy Trust and Pennine Academies Yorkshire

Impact Education Multi Academy Trust and Pennine Academies Yorkshire are delighted to announce that the Department for Education (DfE) has officially approved their application to join forces, forming one of the largest non-faith Multi Academy Trusts in West Yorkshire. Operating under the Impact Education Multi Academy Trust name, the newly expanded Trust will encompass 18 Academies, serving over 8,200 pupils and employing more than 1,200 staff across Bradford, Calderdale, and Kirklees.

A Partnership Rooted in Shared Values

This strategic partnership is built on a foundation of inclusivity, collaboration, and excellence. By uniting their strengths, both Trusts aim to deliver:

- Improved outcomes and experience for their pupils
- Stronger expertise in SEND and school improvement
- Greater talent development through enhanced career and collaboration opportunities
- Improved resilience via shared resources and financial efficiencies
- Wider reach across Bradford, Calderdale and Kirklees

Mick Kay, Chief Executive Officer, Impact Education Multi Academy Trust said, “We are all absolutely thrilled to receive approval from the Department for Education to officially partner with Pennine Academies Yorkshire, who share our commitment to inclusive, high-quality education - particularly for disadvantaged pupils and those with special educational needs.

“This is an exciting time for our Trust and Academies and a fantastic opportunity for us to further strengthen our partnerships as a group of like-minded education providers by formalising the relationships between us.”

Michael Thorp, Chief Executive Officer, Pennine Academies Yorkshire said, “We have been working closely with Impact Education Multi Academy Trust for a number of years and have been exploring ways to leverage our strengths. By partnering under the Impact Education Multi Academy Trust brand, we aim to create even greater opportunities for all our pupils, staff, and communities.”

Looking Ahead

As the partnership moves forward, both Trusts are committed to delivering lasting benefits and new possibilities for everyone involved. This new chapter promises to bring enhanced support, greater opportunities, and a stronger foundation for educational excellence across West Yorkshire.

Impact Education Multi Academy Trust and Pennine Academies Yorkshire will now begin working towards officially partnering in September 2026.