

# Letter from Dean Ashton, Chief Executive



Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in this role within the Reach South Academy Trust.

This is a hugely exciting time for our family of schools. Reach South Academy Trust was established to serve the South West region of England. Reach South is an independent Multi Academy Trust (MAT) that is proud to also be a member of the wider, established family of REACH trusts, established by [REACH2](#).

Sir Steve Lancashire founded the REACH family in 2012 with the launch of REACH2 Academy Trust [www.reach2.org](http://www.reach2.org). REACH2 has grown to become the largest and most successful primary only academy chain in the country. REACH2 currently runs 55 primary academies across the Midlands, South East of England and London.

Collectively, the REACH family aims to deliver an all through 2 – 19 education for children and young people right across the country.

As someone who has been a teacher and still lives in the South West, it is an absolute privilege to be leading Reach South Academy Trust. Whilst Reach South will benefit from the wider support of the REACH family, this will be an academy trust of the South West, for the South West. Everything we do will focus on our central belief in 'Aspiration Beyond Expectation'.

We are building this Trust on a clear set of values, behaviours and curriculum principles. At the heart of those values and principles is a belief in our young people and a determination to support them to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to become the successful citizens for today and all of their tomorrows. Our vision is to enable individual academies to flourish with real autonomy, whilst also ensuring a strong ethos of support and collaboration across our schools.

Teachers within Reach South belong to a national community of professionals, and benefit from a wide range of networks and development opportunities across the Trust. In time, our best teachers are able to work across schools, develop specialisms and step up to leadership roles within and beyond their own academy. The Trust provides a strong culture of collaboration and support, together with high expectations for staff and pupils alike.

Those we recruit are able to demonstrate that they share our values, are highly motivated to work with colleagues within and beyond their school to continuously develop their skills and pursue professional excellence, and are committed to providing the highest standards of teaching for all children. If that is you then we would be delighted to receive your application.

**Dean Ashton**

**Chief Executive, Reach South Academy Trust**