

#### Celebrating our EKC Partnership

As a family of schools, colleges and business units, EKC Schools Trust and our sister organisation, East Kent Colleges Group, are committed to raising the aspiration of all within the communities we serve.

Ours is a unique and sector-leading partnership enabling all ages to access the highest quality educational provision, helping them grow, flourish, and achieve their ambitions.

7 NURSERIES, 8 PRIMARIES, 1 SECONDARY, 6 COLLEGES, 10 TRAINING CENTRES, 4 JUNIOR COLLEGES, 1 ALTERNATIVE PROVISION, AND A HOTEL ... TO DATE





TOGETHER WE ARE RAISING ASPIRATIONS FOR SOME

15,000+

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS THIS YEAR ALONE.

#THEEKCFAMILY

# INFINITE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNERS OF ALL AGES ACROSS EAST AND SOUTH KENT.



#### **Celebrating Learning Together**

Every term, there are trips and visits from the EKC schools to the EKC Colleges. These experiences significantly enhance the curriculum in the schools and provide rich opportunities for personal development and learning. The students also benefit significantly from planning and delivering education to younger pupils, and feedback from the students on their own development and learning has been extremely positive.

The visits also promote the Colleges, and as a result, there has been greater engagement from the local community to their local college.

#### **Educational Enrichment**

Children and young people across the Trust have the opportunity to visit the East Kent Colleges for curriculum enrichment. These events provide excellent opportunities for students studying a wide range of post-16 programmes to share their learning experience, promote their sector and organise and plan experiences, which are all part of their professional development. Children and young people across the Trust have first-hand experiences of opportunities for their future careers and rich and relevant curriculum enrichment opportunities which positively impact their educational learning.

# **Social Action Projects**

Students across the East Kent College Group participate in community weeks, during which they lead social action projects to strengthen local partnerships and enhance the local area. Each year, some of these projects take place at the EKC Schools Trust schools.





# **Community Events**

Both EKC Schools and Colleges host events across the year to celebrate their organisations and their communities. Wherever possible, the EKC family works together so that students, children and young people can come together and share in the fantastic work across all parts of the EKC family.

# **Promoting the EKC Family**

The EKC Brand is an important part of the East Kent community, and the Group and Trust work in partnership to promote each other and their business units, schools, colleges and nurseries. This includes promotional materials on websites, posters and banners, social media posts and in the schools; talking to parents at events.



## **Work Experience and Placements**

Students from Early Years, teacher training, and teaching assistant courses regularly undertake work experience hours and work placements within the EKC Schools Trust. This provides effective and supportive opportunities for students to develop their professional skills and has led to employment for East Kent College Group students at the end of their courses.

# **Apprenticeships**

Every school in EKC Schools Trust employs apprentices, including Early Years, Teaching Support Staff, Estates Staff, and Administrative Assistants. East Kent College Group sources the apprentices and then provides support and delivery for the staff.

### **Safeguarding Training**

The EKC Family work in partnership to ensure that all the Designated Safeguarding Leads are fully trained in all our settings. EKCST provides one of the Trainers and funds 50% of the costs throughout the year to deliver this training alongside colleagues from the Group.

# **Training Opportunities**

EKCST provides a range of training annually and invites EKC Group colleagues to attend where the programme benefits their roles. For example, Do Less Better Leadership Training provided free places for 14 senior leaders in the Group. The annual Early Years Conference also provides training and development for Early Years staff in the Colleges.

EKCST is also working with colleagues in college Early Years departments to provide staff and students with visits and development opportunities to our extensive range of Early Years provisions in the Trust.



#### Governance

EKC Group actively encourages senior leaders to become Governors as part of their leadership development. The Trust benefits from having senior education leaders sit on its Boards and works with the Executive Team to identify potential candidates. Currently, 9 EKC Group Senior Leaders are serving on Boards across the Trust. The CEOs of both organisations serve on the respective overarching Boards, and the Executive Headteacher in the Trust is a Governor for the EKC Group.

### **Junior College Appeals**

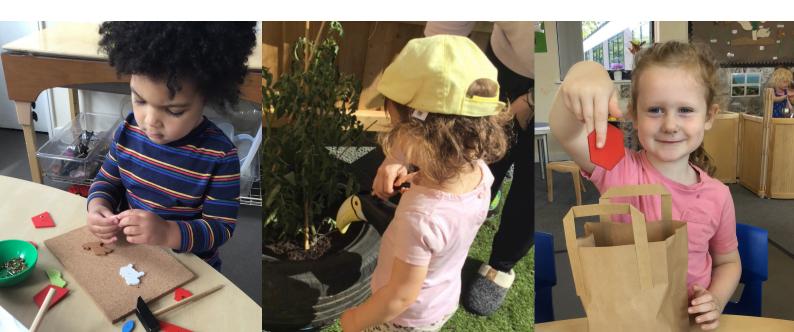
EKCST provides the independent panels, administration, and organisation of the Junior College Appeals across all relevant sites every year.

#### **Curriculum Projects for Group Students**

The Trust seeks ways to provide work and projects for students training in the Group. These have included media and film, photography, design work, marketing and creative development and art. There have also been projects with the music and sports departments where students have led projects that have enabled them to use their skills and expertise for a real client.

#### **Nurseries**

EKCST has operational and strategic responsibility for the Group Nurseries, including the quality of education, staffing and operational arrangements, as well as line management of the Nurseries and training and development for all staff.



### **Sharing Facilities and Opportunities**

Working together affords our communities - pupils, students and staff - the benefit of the full suite of facilities across the EKC family estate. Whether EKC Sheppey College Public Services students enjoying facilities at EKC Sheppey Secondary, or working together to enhance community learning opportunities, or sharing in staff development opportunities, we're stronger together.

# **Outstanding Personal Development**

East Stour and Ashford College have a powerful, embedded programme of Young Carers working with Care Leavers in the College as part of their personal development. This project has had incredible benefits for all the children and young people. and builds on the outstanding enrichment experiences that enhance our curriculum and personal development.



100%

STAFF PROUD TO WORK FOR THE TRUST



#EDUCATINGKENTCOMMUNITIES #EVERYKIDCOUNTS

**#YOUR SCHOOLOURCOMMUNITY** 





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