

Parent and Carer Newsletter

July 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the academic year, which also marks the first five months of Amplify, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and share a little more about our trust. Amplify brings together your child's school and 20 others across Bristol and the surrounding area, creating a community with a shared commitment to helping every child thrive.

While each of our schools retains its own unique identity, values and connection to its local community, being part of Amplify allows us to work together, share expertise and create even better opportunities for children and young people. Since our trust was formed in March, we have been focused on building strong foundations, supporting our schools and creating opportunities for pupils and staff to learn from one another.

Over the past few months, we have seen pupils come together through a range of trust-wide events, including our Trust Concert at Bristol Beacon in partnership with Birmingham Conservatoire, our Year 2 Celebration of Music, Year 6 Careers Fair and the Speak Up Challenge. These events have showcased the incredible talent, confidence and ambition that exists across our schools, while giving children opportunities to collaborate, perform and learn alongside their peers from across the trust and with brilliant young people from our partners.

Looking ahead, we are excited to build on this success by expanding opportunities for pupils, staff and families to connect and benefit from being part of the Amplify community. We are also working closely with partners across the city on projects that will help address the growing need for specialist SEND provision, ensuring more children can access the support they need closer to home.

Thank you for the part you play in your school community. We are proud of what has been achieved during our first months as Amplify and look forward to continuing to work together to ensure every child can thrive, belong and achieve their potential.

Neil Blundell
CEO



St Werburgh's Careers Fair



Our commitment to being Ambitious was on full display at the recent Year 6 Careers Fair hosted at St Werburgh's Primary School.

Pupils had the opportunity to explore a vast and inspiring range of careers, meeting professionals from across a wide spectrum of industries. From creative roles to technical professions, the event showcased just how many exciting pathways are open to our young people—raising aspirations and helping them see what's possible for their future.

It was also fantastic to welcome Fonthill Primary School to the event for the first time this year, strengthening collaboration across our primary schools and enriching the experience for all involved.

This event continues to grow year on year, and we're excited about its potential to expand even further, reaching all Amplify primary schools and giving even more pupils the chance to engage with the world of work in a meaningful way.

Amplify Parent Feedback Pulse
Survey



Henbury Court film an anti-racism film 'Stronger Together'

That's a wrap! Our Year 5 and 6 children at Henbury Court had an amazing two days shooting our anti-racism film, Stronger Together, in partnership with @purposebuiltfilms and @integrateuk! The shoot was the culmination of a year-long project, where the children devised and wrote the script to make a resource that will be used to support anti-racism education in primary schools. It's now off to the editing room so stayed tune for the premier in the Autumn. A huge thank you to both the production company, Purpose Built Films, who made this such a wonderful experience for our children and Integrate UK who have supported us the whole way!



Sharing memories event at Henbury Court



Last week Henbury Court organised a sharing memories event. Ex-pupils, including 2 people who were pupils here in the first cohort in 1956, and ex-staff members returned to be interviewed by our Year 6 children to capture the history of Henbury Court in living memory. Guests shared photos and mementos of their time here. They were also very complimentary of our how polite and engaged our children were. Ms Smith, our current Year 2 teacher and ex-pupil, even got to see her old teacher when she was a pupil here! We held this event in collaboration with Myers-Insole Local Learning Community Interest Company, kindly funded by Historic England. www.locallearning.org.uk

Speak Up Challenge

The Speak Up Challenge is a growing Amplify event designed to build pupils' confidence in public speaking, giving them the opportunity to share their ideas, speak with purpose and develop their voice in front of an audience.

Pupils first take part in competitions within their own schools, with finalists then selected to represent their school at the trust-wide event. This year's final was held for the first time at Trinity Academy, creating a brilliant setting to bring together our young speakers. The challenge continues to grow, with Stoke Park Primary joining for the first time, further strengthening collaboration across our schools. Importantly, this is not just cross-trust but also cross-phase collaboration, with pupils from both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 taking part and learning from one another.

Throughout the competition, pupils demonstrated courage, creativity and thoughtful communication, speaking on topics that mattered to them with clarity and passion. It was a real celebration of pupil voice and the ambition we have for every young person in our schools.

Congratulations to all the winners and a special mention goes to our Outstanding Orator: Kason from Henbury Court Primary Academy.

Year 2 music event

On Monday 22nd June, 400 excited young singers from Amplify arrived at Trinity Academy for the Year Two Celebration of Music. They had been working hard in school rehearsing an ambitious variety of songs including echo, call-and-response, round and performance. Now it was time to showcase them. Accompanied by a talented live house band made up of Trinity's Music staff, Year Two filled the Main Hall with their confident and joyful singing. Singing leaders and percussionists were given their chance to shine at the front. 'Octopus's Garden' and 'Power in Me' were favourites which raised the roof! This brilliantly collaborative event incorporated aspirational performances from accomplished secondary musicians from Trinity including a vocal soloist, a string trio and a rock band. These inspired our young musicians to see where their musical journeys could lead them.



Thank you to all the Year Two teachers for rehearsing with commitment and to Trinity for hosting the event and providing such an incredible musical experience for all.

Staff and Trustee spotlight



Enas Elmansuri, EAL LSA and Duke of Edinburgh Manager - Orchard School Bristol

On 20th May 2026, I had the privilege of attending a special celebration in the beautiful gardens of Buckingham Palace to mark

the 70th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) and celebrate the achievements of Gold Award holders.

It was an inspiring and memorable occasion. I was delighted to meet many Gold Award achievers and hear about their remarkable journeys, which highlighted the life-changing impact of the DofE in building confidence, resilience and opportunity for young people.

One of the highlights of the day was meeting His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, who expressed his gratitude to the volunteers, schools, youth groups and partners whose support makes the Award possible.

Set against the magnificent backdrop of Buckingham Palace Gardens, with performances from the Royal bands and traditional afternoon tea, the celebration was a fitting tribute to 70 years of the DofE and its enduring mission to transform the lives of young people.

Andrea Alridge - Amplify Trustee



We're delighted to share that Andrea Alridge, has been awarded an OBE in recognition of her significant contributions to education and public service.

Andrea brings a wealth of experience, integrity and insight to our Board. Her commitment to improving outcomes for children and communities is clear in everything she does, and her support and guidance continues to make a meaningful impact across our trust.

This honour is a fitting reflection of the impact Andrea has made over many years across the wider education sector.

Congratulations, Andrea, and thank you for the leadership and guidance you provide.

Governor recruitment



Make a Difference as a School Governor

Our Trust is seeking enthusiastic and community-minded volunteers to join our governing bodies. School governors provide strategic support and challenge to school leaders, helping to drive improvement and ensure the best outcomes for pupils.

You don't need to be a parent or education professional – governors come from a wide range of backgrounds and bring valuable skills, experience and fresh perspectives. In return, you'll have the opportunity to make a tangible difference to the lives of children and young people while contributing to the success of your local community.

We are Amplify Education

Our defining attributes

Ambitious | Reflective | Collaborative

Our commitment

Bold vision for education, building belief, expanding opportunities and strengthening citizenship.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Governor please email info@ampedu.co.uk for more information.

AMBITIOUS | REFLECTIVE | COLLABORATIVE

Sustainability at Amplify



Sustainability Leads CPD day

Fourteen of our schools' Sustainability Leads came together to work on their school Climate Action Plans, share ideas and look ahead to next year. They heard about free nature connection opportunities on the [Belmont Estate](#) for schools and were joined by guests from the [Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership](#), [Green Schools Project](#), [Let's Go Zero](#), and [Climate Ambassadors programme](#).

We are excited for more collaboration and network building across Amplify to support sustainability across the trust into next year and beyond.



Parson Street Primary School

The Green team had a funded trip to Bristol Zoo to find out about how animals are impacted by climate change. They're going to do an assembly about their trip later this term.

On David Attenborough's birthday the green team replanted the planters. This was funded by the Earth Day Heroes project.

We also raised money on our 'switch off day' in November to give each class a class plant to care for and look after.



AMBITIOUS | REFLECTIVE | COLLABORATIVE

Sustainability at Amplify continued..

Victoria Park Primary School

SUDs planter

We won a £500 nature prize from the Ovo Foundation. We used the money to create another Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS) planter. EYFS pupils had a great time adding all the drainage layers and putting in some beautiful plants. It will slow the rainfall, reduce flooding on the playground, attract pollinators and make the playground look nice for everyone to enjoy.



Green Schools Project

Our Year 5 pupils took part in the Green Schools Project this year, a 26 week climate education programme culminating in an 'act' stage where pupils decide on a project to improve our school. They chose to carry out wildlife informed regeneration of the outdoor classroom. The children have led planting of wildlife friendly plants and wildflowers, as well as oxygenating pond plants. Alongside this, they are running workshops with younger children to engage them in wildlife and what we can do to support it.



Earth Day heroes

We have entered the Global Goals Centre Earth Day Heroes award for all the planting we have done around school to enhance the grounds for people and wildlife. Fingers crossed we win a prize!



Sustainability at Amplify continued...

Henbury Court Primary School

Have been awarded a £5k grant to improve biodiversity in their school grounds. The funding is from the National Education Nature Park to help schools make 'grey' spaces green.



**National
Education
Nature Park**

Orchard School Bristol

We noticed that every meal deal would be accompanied by a single use plastic water bottle. We swapped those out for re-usable plastic cups which can be filled from a refillable jug. This replaces approximately 500 plastic bottles a day (somewhere between 25-60kg of carbon dioxide, equivalent to 100-250 miles travelled in a car). A great start!



Cathedral Primary School



On Earth Day we celebrated the wonderful entries to our Celebration of Nature photo competition, a focus of which was nature all around us.



A group of children have completed a year of termly visits to Watercress Farm as part of their Nature Connection Sessions; a highlight of every visit was playing in the river. The Green Team have worked hard to get recycling up and running again across the school; every classroom now has a mixed recycling bin. Bristol City Council's Active Travel team have visited the Year 2 children to talk about Air Quality and how their school journeys can impact on this. In conjunction with BCCS we have been awarded a grant from Bristol City Council to increase our cycle storage, it's great to see how well used our current provision is. To round off the year the Butterfly and Conservation Trust will be visiting our Year 3 children to think about ways of improving the school's biodiversity to benefit wildlife.

Sustainability at Amplify continued...

Bridge Learning Campus - Primary



We have some lovely raised beds running along our reception playground area that have been unloved and unused for a number of years.... So with a group of students in after school club we started work on reviving one and turning it into a little vegetable area. With further projects like this hoping to happen soon!



Ashton Gate Primary School

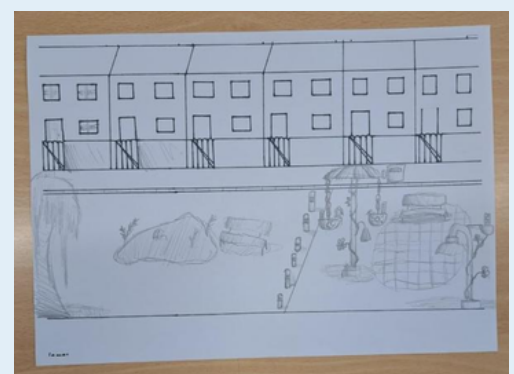
Over the summer holidays, Ashton Gate Primary School will have 6 new EV charging points installed into the car park. Staff will be able to use this during school hours and our car park is open to the public on evenings and weekends. We are hoping for good usage on match days so please spread the word to all you know!



Ashton Gate Primary School were mentioned in the recent Bristol City Council 'Active Travel' newsletter. The School's Active Travel Team have been inspired by all of the creativity at Ashley Down Primary School and May Park Primary School when designing streets made for walking, wheeling, cycling, scooting.



The children thought about infrastructure changes such as bike lanes, widening pavements and pedestrianising the street alongside additional measures like seating, artwork and play spaces!



Safeguarding Spotlight

Keeping safe over the summer



Water Safety This Summer

As we head into the summer holidays, we would like to remind all families about the importance of staying safe around water. Sadly, there have been a number of tragic water-related deaths across the UK in recent weeks, many involving children and young people. Warm weather can make rivers, lakes, reservoirs and the sea look inviting, but even on hot days the water can be dangerously cold, leading to cold water shock and strong currents that are often hidden beneath the surface.

We encourage families to choose lifeguarded beaches and supervised swimming venues wherever possible, ensure children are always closely supervised around water, and talk to them about the dangers of entering open water. If someone gets into difficulty in the water, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard (at the coast) or Fire and Rescue Service (inland). Remember the lifesaving advice: Float to Live – if you unexpectedly find yourself in trouble in the water, float on your back, keep calm and call for help when you can. The [RNLI Water Safety Hub](#) contains clear advice for families about beaches, rivers, lakes, canals, paddleboarding, cold water shock and the lifesaving Float to Live campaign.

Safeguarding over the summer holidays

Lots of us will be looking forward to the school holidays and all our schools will be closed for staff and children to enjoy the long break however we know that the holiday period is not always easy for families. Whilst our schools are closed there is still help available out there if you need it. The Bristol Safeguarding in Education team have put together a comprehensive webpage for children, teenagers and parents with lots of useful, age-related information on keeping safe and where to get support:

www.bristolsafeguardingineducation.org/staying-safe-out-of-school/staying-safe-for-children/

There is similar information for families who are living in North Somerset: nsscp.co.uk

Who to contact

If you are worried about the safety or welfare of a child over the holidays, please contact: Bristol First Response 0117 903 6444 North Somerset Care Connect 01275 888 808 The South Gloucestershire - Access and Response Team 01454 866 000.

If a child is at immediate risk call the police on 999.

You can also use these numbers if you need some support for you and your child.

There is also lots of support and advice available through the NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/

Please reach out for support if you need it. Help is available. Our school safeguarding teams will be looking forward to seeing you and your children at school in September and will be readily available to discuss any worries or concerns that have arisen over the school holidays.

AMBITIOUS | REFLECTIVE | COLLABORATIVE