

**Schools
North East**



PARTNER SCHOOL BROCHURE

2025/ 2026

WHO WE ARE



Set up by schools for schools, we are a self-funded, registered charity that represents all 1,150 schools in the region – **and we are the only school-led regional network in the UK.**

Schools North East is a movement for change, giving a voice to North East schools in the national debate. A region-wide consultation in 2007 revealed that **schools desperately needed support** in getting their voices heard as they were consistently left out of the education policy debate. And so Schools North East was born!

School engagement and input drives everything that we do. Together we are the definitive, apolitical voice of North East schools, **influencing the shape of regional and national policy** to deliver on your vision for our young people. North East schools are at the very heart of what we do.

As a charity, **we are independent, but not neutral.** We campaign to improve conditions for North East schools, engaging with partners across all sectors. **Innovation is at our core.** We seek fresh solutions to the challenges of the present to shape our future, and have a strong social purpose, which is the foundation of our work. **Our integrity underpins all that we do.**

As a network of all of our region's schools, our strategy is entirely driven and directed by them. Through our consultations, networking, surveys, roundtables, podcast, annual calendar of events, and ongoing discussions with individuals and local networks, **we Lead not Plead.**

We have developed exponentially over the past 18 years, and Schools North East has grown to be The **Voice, Glue, Bridge** of North East schools and trusts.

OUR VISION



Young people in North East England who are confident, enterprising, skilled and aspiring: learning and developing within well-resourced, nurturing, purposeful and collaborative school environments.

OUR VALUES

INCLUSIVE



We are for all North East schools - regardless of size, type, faith, structure and geographical location.

INDEPENDENT



Our independent status means we have the power to make our own decisions to benefit schools. We listen, understand, and react.

INNOVATIVE



We use the past as lessons to help us create fresh, innovative solutions that help our schools succeed.

INTEGRITY



We have a strong social purpose which dictates our actions and our behaviour; it defines us in the eyes of others.

18 YEARS OF

**Schools
North East**



Our annual events programme offers invaluable opportunities to network with colleagues from across the region.

In 2024/25, we held...

- **8 Annual conferences**
- **2 Annual events**
- **3 Single issue events**
- **13 Webinars**
- **8 Roundtables**
- **3 Online conferences**

WE ENGAGE WITH...



Over 3,000 school colleagues



Over 1,100 regional and national schools



With over 1,500 current memberships



WHAT IS A PARTNER SCHOOL?



Partner Schools are at the heart of everything we do.

Schools North East is the glue that keeps our region's schools together. We are here to give you a voice and provide a bridge between our schools and policymakers.

Partner Schools look beyond their own school gates to create an inclusive network led by schools. Utilising the expertise of our members to benefit developments in our region, they demonstrate a clear, ongoing commitment towards our missions. Every year our Partner membership grows and ranges from early years to colleges covering every type of school.

Through this membership platform, we invite school staff to have an active role in helping us **CHANGE THE NARRATIVE** and **LEAD LONG-LASTING CHANGE**.

We are here to listen to you. Partner schools ensure the charity meets and responds to the needs of North East Schools and the children and young people they serve, now and in the future. They have the ability to determine the direction of the charity through a democratic structure that is inclusive and values all schools equally.

Partner Schools lead change. They are at the heart of everything we do, provisioning a collective voice that drives our strategy forward.



WHY BECOME A PARTNER SCHOOL?

The Partner Schools Membership drives what we do. It enables you to have a voice at a national level — a voice that is increasingly heard and effective.

Being a Partner School means practical, day-to-day benefits for Head Teachers and staff. From jointly influencing policy to accessing free, high-quality CPD, your team gains support that directly impacts teaching and leadership. You'll also benefit from a discounted bespoke recruitment portal through Jobs in Schools | North East, designed to ease the pressure of attracting and retaining staff.

The membership connects schools with one another, both formally and informally, to share best practice, access fresh thinking and test new ideas and pedagogy. It also ensures Partner Schools are connected with key decision makers and influencers, including our region's most senior politicians.

ROUNDTABLES

Opportunities to hold conversations and discussions regarding topics and issues that are relevant to you.

MP ROUNDTABLES

Speak truth to power as local MPs from across the region join our roundtables to address issues affecting you and your school. These discussions are captured in Stakeholder Briefings, helping shape policy and generating media coverage to amplify your voice.

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES

You'll receive regular communication from us: policy updates to keep on track of government changes to education; bitesize briefings where we share published research and analyses on education policy; and exclusive opportunities from regional and national businesses, think tanks and more.

WEBINARS & TEACHMEETS

Each academic year, we host a series of FREE webinars and TeachMeets in response to emerging sector trends and challenges. Plus, Partner Schools have FREE access to previous recorded webinars.

EVENTS & NETWORKING

Join us for our flagship annual conferences and a range of impactful single-issue events held throughout the academic year. Partner Schools benefit from exclusive discounted conference tickets and enjoy two complimentary seats at our prestigious annual Patron's Dinner.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION SUPPORT

As a Partner School, you will receive an exclusive discount on an annual subscription to Jobs In Schools | North East, a not-for-profit jobs portal that was made by schools, for schools. [Visit the website here](#) and sign up today.

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

In 24/25, we launched the new Schools North East website—a platform built to showcase the energy, ambition, and excellence of our region's schools. With a cleaner design, improved navigation, and brand-new features, it's now easier than ever for schools, partners, and the wider community to connect with our work.

The results speak for themselves: visitor numbers are rising fast, giving our Partner Schools greater visibility and impact. Alongside your school or trust logo on the website, you'll also receive a welcome feature in our Weekly Update (5,000+ subscribers), plus a welcome post on X (9,000 followers) and LinkedIn (4,600 followers).

PARTNER SCHOOLS ARE AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Media

As the collective voice of all 1,150 schools in the North East, Schools North East is a trusted authority in the media. Leading regional and national outlets – including BBC, Sky News, and LBC – consistently seek our expertise on the issues shaping education.

In 2024/25 alone, we provided commentary on Ofsted, exams, SEND, pupil numbers, early years, and more, ensuring the voice of North East schools is not only heard but amplified on the national stage.

Our press work strengthens our role as The Voice of North East schools: advocating for our schools in policy discussions, ensuring their challenges are recognised, and promoting a positive, authentic narrative of education in the region.

In doing so, we not only inform the public conversation but also influence decision-makers, ensuring that the unique context of the North East is reflected in future education policy.

Policy

Schools North East is a movement for change giving a voice to North East schools in the national education policy debate. At Schools North East, influencing policy for the benefit of our schools is the heart of everything we do.

We are the definitive, apolitical voice of North East schools, influencing the shape of regional and national policy to deliver on their vision for our young people. As a charity, we are independent, but not neutral.

In 2024/25, Schools North East issued 10 Stakeholder Briefings, shaped by roundtables, surveys and direct feedback from school leaders. Covering Ofsted, SEND, attendance, recruitment, funding, rural challenges and more, these briefings ensured the lived experiences of North East schools reached the Department for Education, Ofsted, MPs, mayors and the media.

READ OUR 2024 MANIFESTO FOR NORTH EAST EDUCATION

JOBS IN SCHOOLS | North East

Jobs in Schools | North East is a not-for-profit jobs portal created by schools, for schools. Research showed that the North East was collectively spending more than £2m on advertising vacancies nationally, putting increased pressure on already strained budgets. To save our schools and trusts thousands of pounds we created this unique platform.



2023/24 marked a major milestone with the launch of the Schools North East Podcast, now a vital voice for education in the region. In 24/25, the podcast released 15 episodes featuring 23 guests, tackling urgent issues from rural and SEND challenges to accountability, inclusion, and parental engagement.

Our podcast is now regularly followed by listeners from the Department for Education and the BBC, which is proof that this platform has become a powerful channel for raising the profile of North East education.



National Network of Special Schools for School Business Professionals

In 2020, the Department for Education commissioned Schools North East to set up a dedicated network of School Business Professionals working in England's special and hospital schools, and alternative provision settings – based on the successful model of Schools North East.

NNoSS is a collaborative network of School Business Professionals representing over 400 of England's specialist schools. Through collaborative initiatives, the community strives to ensure their settings are well-resourced for each unique learner. Together, they are a loud and powerful voice, challenging decisions and influencing decision makers for the greater good of the entire specialist sector.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



2024/2025

The real strength lies in the collective. Our Partner Schools stand together — sharing best practice, championing innovation and presenting a united front to key decision makers, including our region's most senior politicians.

With renewal rates consistently above 98% and membership growing every year, this is far more than a membership: it's a movement built on loyalty, trust and shared ambition.

Your partnership makes real change possible. Over the past year, together we have:

- Strengthened our collective voice: Launched the refreshed Manifesto for North East Education, shaping national debate on SEND, funding, and curriculum.
- Influenced policy directly: Fed evidence into the Education Select Committee's SEND inquiry and the national Curriculum Review; co-published a major briefing on Free School Meal auto-enrolment with the North East Child Poverty Commission.
- Put the North East on the map: Welcomed newly appointed Minister for School Standards Catherine McKinnell MP to give her first public speech at our Annual Summit.
- Brought world-class expertise to our schools: Hosted education leaders Michael Fullan, Tom Rees, and Vanessa Ogden to work directly with school leaders across the region.
- Grown our community: Nearly 750 North East schools are now Partner Schools.

By standing together, we ensure that North East schools don't just have a seat at the table — we help set the agenda.

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It's fantastic working with everyone at SNE and knowing that you are all there to represent us on the national stage.

You create a strong sense of unity and collaboration which makes the North East, in my humble opinion, the only place I would ever want to work!

Partner School Member, Trust CEO

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BECOME A PARTNER SCHOOL TODAY.

PARTNER SCHOOL	SIZE OF SCHOOL	PRICE
	Small (>100)	£80
	Medium (101-599)	£190
	Large (<600)	£350
Trust*	Small (>100)	£65
	Medium (101-599)	£155
	Large (<600)	£285

All prices exc. VAT

For further details on Trust pricing please contact
l.gerencser@schoolsneast.com

*Trust prices are based on all of the schools in the Trust being Partner Schools



CLICK HERE TO JOIN

**AM I
ALREADY A
PARTNER
SCHOOL?**



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner Trust



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



For every child, for every school, for the future of our region.