

@OptimusEd

#oeMATs

MATSummit.co.uk



**Ensure you're a financially sustainable trust, establish yourself as an employer of choice and cement trust connections to further your impact**

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EVENT



**MATs SUMMIT 2024**

IMPACT | STRATEGY | VISION

27 NOVEMBER – 29 NOVEMBER 2024

WYBOSTON LAKES RESORT

**In the face of challenges presented by the funding shortfall, increased SEND numbers, and recruitment competition, the landscape for trusts has changed significantly over the last year. Building in strong, tested strategies and making difficult decisions has become crucial to secure a sustainable, high-quality MAT.**

The 9th annual MATs Summit brings educational leaders from across the country together, to share their best practice, have open and honest conversations about the pitfalls they've encountered, and have important face-to-face time to strategise with their whole team.

Take away processes to make you stand out as an employer of choice, lead with confidence and impact, keep high-performing staff, and operate efficiently and sustainably from the centre. Work collaboratively with other MAT leaders to develop new strategies, refine ongoing practice, and build lasting connections for ongoing improvement.

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## REGISTER ONLINE

Book online and receive instant confirmation:  
[matsummit.co.uk/book-now](https://matsummit.co.uk/book-now)

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## Wednesday 27 November 2024

19:00 – 22:00 Drinks reception

## Thursday 28 November 2024

09:00 – 09:40 Registration and coffee in exhibition space

09:40 – 09:45 Welcome and housekeeping  
*Optimus Education*

09:45 – 10:00 **Chair's introduction and welcome**  
*Laura McInerney, Education Journalist and Co-Founder, Teacher Tapp*

10:00 – 10:30 **My top five tips for MAT leaders**  
Take away insight from more than 10 years of executive experience, including what pitfalls you might encounter, and how to overcome them.  
*Jon Chaloner, Leadership Adviser and Former CEO, GLF Schools*

10:30 – 11:00 **Revisiting trusts in a digital and AI infused landscape**  
Take away practical next steps to support your trust with insights and lessons from those at the forefront of digital and AI in schools, and catch up on the latest trends in the sector.  
*Dr. Fiona Aubrey-Smith, Founder, PedTech*

11:00 – 11:10 Q&A

11:10 – 11:50 Morning refreshments and networking with exhibitors

### 11:50 – 12:40 Workshop choices one

**1A: Intelligent growth**  
Explore the challenges of growth and ensure that you are growing from a child and community-centric perspective.  
*Jon Chaloner, Leadership Adviser and Former CEO, GLF Schools*

**1B: Improving academy outcomes**  
*Shofiquez Zaman, Deputy CEO, Community Schools Trust*

**1C: Recruitment: what can you offer?**  
Establish yourself as an employer of choice with recruitment strategies that are attractive and cost-efficient.  
*Mandy Coalter, Founder, Talent Architects*

**1D: Financial strategy**  
Implement and maintain a viable financial strategy to ensure your trust thrives despite a difficult economic landscape.  
*Stephen Mitchell, CEO and Founder, Keystone Knowledge*

12:40 – 13:40 Lunch and networking with exhibitors

13:40 – 14:10 **Surveying the political landscape**  
*Lord David Blunkett, Former Labour Home Secretary*

14:10 – 14:25 Q&A

14:25 – 15:00 **Sensible and affordable staff retention strategies**  
Retain staff and develop your next leaders with a robust people strategy that works on the ground and ensures you're a more attractive employer.  
*Mandy Coalter, Founder, Talent Architects*

15:00 – 15:10 Q&A

15:10 – 15:30 Afternoon refreshments and networking with exhibitors

15:30 – 16:20 Workshop choices two			
<p><b>2A: Centralisation of finances and budget pooling</b></p> <p>Effectively centralise your finance strategy during growth, from winning hearts and minds through to the practical implementation.</p> <p><i>Sean Pinhay CFOO, and Simon Hague, CEO, Crofty MAT</i></p>	<p><b>2B: Deepen your inclusive provision</b></p> <p>Increase inclusivity and expertise across your trust by collaborating with specialist provision.</p> <p><i>Rachel Quick, Interim Trust CEO, The Wherry School</i></p> <p><i>Mark Unwin, CEO, Create Partnership Trust</i></p>	<p><b>2C: Mythbusting mergers</b></p> <p>Hear from a trust who have recently been through a merger process. Understand the pitfalls, how it actually looks, and what practical elements you need in place.</p> <p><i>Helen Winn, CEO, Wendy Munro, COO, Hope Sentamu Learning Trust</i></p>	<p><b>2D: Future proof your workforce</b></p> <p>Stay ahead of the market by attracting, training, and equipping your team with current insights, practical solutions, and future predictions.</p> <p><i>Penny Swain, Education Talent Solutions Director, Supporting Education Group</i></p> <p><i>Anna Smeed, Managing Director, Thrive</i></p>
16:20 – 19:00 Informal time for networking and relaxation			
19:00 – 20:00 Drinks reception			
20:00 – 22:00 Gala dinner with entertainment			

## Friday 29 November 2024

09:00 – 09:30 Registration and coffee in exhibition space			
<p><b>Chair's welcome and educational trends</b></p> <p><i>Laura McInerney, Education Journalist and Co-Founder of Teacher Tapp</i></p>			
<p><b>School improvement at scale</b></p> <p>Collaborate across your trust with clear lines of communication to ensure you're creating opportunities for conversations around improvement and capturing best practice.</p> <p><i>Martin Fitzwilliam, National Director of Primary, E-ACT</i></p>			
10:00 – 10:30 Q&A			
10:30 – 10:40 Morning refreshments, networking, and exhibition			
11:15 – 12:00 Workshop choices three			
<p><b>3A: Enhance your trust culture</b></p> <p>Hear practical examples of how a culture led approach can address inequity, leading to increased staff satisfaction, and gain an understanding of how bias works.</p> <p><i>David Watson, CEO, Sherbourne Area Schools' Trust</i></p>	<p><b>3B: Centralise your estates team</b></p> <p>Cut costs significantly by bringing your estates team in-house and create a more streamlined process.</p> <p><i>Michael McCarthy, CEO, and Nathan Millington, Head of Estates and Operations, Consilium Academies</i></p>	<p><b>3C: Mechanics and dynamics: evolve your governance to optimise effectiveness</b></p> <p>Develop effective MAT governance in line with the replacement of the governance handbook, and the introduction of a voluntary code.</p> <p><i>Mark Blois, Partner, Browne Jacobson</i></p> <p><i>Steve Hodsmann, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Delta Academies Trust</i></p>	<p><b>3D: Effective mentoring</b></p> <p>Deliver support to new or potential leaders to deepen their experience and improve your overall trust performance.</p> <p><i>David Hermit, Former Trust CEO, Senior Consultant, Enjoy Education Services</i></p>
<p><b>Resilient organisations start with strong succession plans</b></p> <p>Develop the next leaders in your trust so you can backfill in case of trust growth, promotion, departure, or absence.</p> <p><i>Jonny Uttley, CEO, The Education Alliance</i></p>			
12:00 – 12:30 Conference ends			

# Speakers



Laura McInerney  
Education Journalist and Founder, Teacher Tapp (Chair)



Dr Fiona Aubrey-Smith  
Founder, PedTech



Lord David Blunkett  
Former Labour Home Secretary



Jon Chaloner  
Leadership Advisor, Former Trust CEO



David Hermitt  
Former Trust CEO, Senior Consultant, Enjoy Education Services



Martin Fitzwilliam  
National Director of Primary, E-ACT



Mark Blois  
Partner, Browne Jacobson LLP



Michael McCarthy  
CEO, Consilium Academies



Mandy Coalter  
Founder, Talent Architects



Sean Pinhay  
CFOO, Crofty MAT



Simon Hague  
CEO, Crofty MAT



Mark Unwin  
CEO, Create Partnership Trust



Nathan Millington  
Director of Estates and Operations, Consilium Academies



David Watson  
CEO, Sherbourne Area Schools' Trust



Rachel Quick  
Interim Trust CEO, The Wherry School



Shofiquez Zaman  
Deputy CEO, Community Schools Trust



Jonny Uttley  
CEO, The Education Alliance Multi-Academy Trust

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### MATs Summit standard package

Thursday and Friday conference,  
Thursday night Gala Dinner and Thursday  
accommodation.

### MATs Summit extended package:

Two-day residential MATs Summit standard  
package, PLUS Wednesday networking  
evening reception, PLUS Wednesday night  
accommodation.

# PRICING

Non - Member Pricing	Full value
MATs Summit standard package	£750 plus VAT (1 delegate)
MATs Summit extended package	£950 plus VAT (1 delegate)

For group bookings please call 020 8315 1506 or email [conference.bookings@prospects.co.uk](mailto:conference.bookings@prospects.co.uk)

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