



Maritime  
Academy  
Trust



Your Guide to  
Maritime Schools

# Welcome to Maritime

Hello to all our families in our schools - and to those of you thinking about joining one of them!

Your child's school is part of Maritime. We're a multi-academy trust, which is a group of schools that work together under one organisation, while each school still keeps its own identity and headteacher.

As a charity, everything we do is focused on supporting schools and helping children succeed.

By working together, our schools share ideas, experience and expertise. This means each school benefits from the strengths of the whole Trust.

We want you to feel clear about what it means for your child to be part of a Maritime school, so we've created this guide for our parents and carers.

We hope you find it useful!



# How being part of Maritime benefits your child's school

At Maritime, we want every child to have the best possible start in life, no matter their background or starting point. That's our promise to families.

We're proud of the progress children make in our schools and we're always aiming higher. We want every child to leave us confident, capable, and ready for the next stage of their education and life beyond school.

Children have access to a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom, including clubs, trips and experiences that help them learn, grow and discover new interests.

We know children do better when schools and families work closely together, so we build strong relationships with parents and carers and help families access support when needed.

We also work with other schools, charities and organisations to bring in new ideas and opportunities, and we invest in our staff so they can continue to develop and give every child the best possible experience.

Across our schools, teams work closely together, sharing ideas and improving practice.

Everything we do is focused on helping every child feel successful, supported and ready for the future.



# How we support schools

We support schools in three main ways:

- We give help wherever it's needed, so they never feel alone.
- We provide clear guidance and checks to make sure everything is working as it should be.
- We help schools improve and share what works best with each other.

Most importantly, we want school leaders to spend their time and energy on what matters most: your child's learning and the quality of teaching in the classroom.



# How schools are led

Maritime Academy Trust is led by a Board of Trustees and our Chief Executive, Nick Osborne, supported by a central team working across areas like education, finance and school support.

We're funded directly by the government and are accountable to organisations like the Department for Education and Ofsted. This helps make sure we use public money responsibly and stay focused on giving children the best education.

Each school is led by its headteacher, who's responsible for the day-to-day running of the school. They're supported by a local academy council, made up of people who know the school and care about its success.

At the start of each year, the headteacher and council agree the school's main priorities in a clear plan. They then meet regularly to review progress, offer support and ask questions. The headteacher makes all day-to-day decisions.



# Commonly asked questions

## *Who runs our schools?*

Each school is led by its headteacher. They're responsible for the day-to-day running of the school, including teaching, learning and your child's experience each day.

They're supported by Maritime, but the headteacher remains the key leader of the school locally.

## *Will my child's school change if it joins Maritime?*

Your child's school will still feel like the same school they know. The staff, routines, and leadership stay in place. Over time, there may be new opportunities and improvements, but the aim is to build on what already works well.

## *Will all Maritime schools become the same?*

No. Every school keeps its own identity.

We believe schools should reflect their local community. While we share ideas and high expectations across Maritime, each school continues to have its own character and approach.



## *Who decides things like uniform and homework?*

These decisions are made by the headteacher, with support from the Local Academy Council.

This allows each school to make choices that work best for its own community while still maintaining high standards.



## *Who decides what my child is taught?*

Each school designs its own curriculum, led by the headteacher and teachers, with support from the Local Academy Council.

All schools must provide a broad and balanced education. Maritime schools also focus on helping children build knowledge and life skills together.

## *Who is responsible for the school overall?*

There's a Board of Trustees who are ultimately responsible for all Maritime schools.

However, day-to-day decisions are made in the school by the headteacher, supported by the Trust.

## *What does Maritime actually do?*

We support schools so they can focus on teaching and learning. We provide guidance, training and shared support services, and we help schools work together to share ideas and improve.

## *Are academy trusts businesses that make money?*

No. Maritime is a charitable trust - not a business.

We don't make profits. Schools receive government funding as they did before, and we use shared systems to make sure more money goes directly into supporting children and schools.

## *How are children with special educational needs supported?*

We're proud of the support we provide for children with special educational needs.

Some of our schools have specialist provision, and we also have experienced staff across Maritime who work together to support children and share expertise. We're always working to improve this support further.

## *How do you work with parents and what if I have a concern?*

We believe children do best when schools and families work closely together.

You can speak to your child's school at any time if you have a concern.

Each school also has a clear complaints process on its website or through the school office.

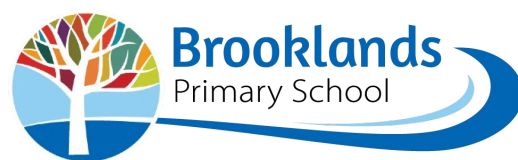


# Our schools

Maritime Academy Trust is made up of 12 schools across Bexley, Greenwich, Medway and Kent.



Barnsole Primary School



HOOK LANE PRIMARY  
Encouraging Fearless Learners



# Stay in touch



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