

# Academy Conversion - Frequently Asked Questions

## **Will we still be called Tong High School?**

The school will continue to be called Tong High School.

## **Will the uniform change?**

The uniform will not be changing as part of the conversion.

## **What experience will TET bring?**

TET runs 10 schools, with three more in pre-opening. Many of its schools are situated in deprived areas, yet all that have been inspected so far are rated as “outstanding” by Ofsted. TET’s flagship school in Blackburn is one of the very best state schools in the country. There has been much demand for TET to work with more schools.

## **What’s your vision for the future?**

Our existing schools are run as faith schools. So, to ensure all pupils regardless of faith or background can enjoy the high quality education TET offers, the trust has set up a non-faith division which will be working with your school.

## **What experience do you have supporting non-faith schools?**

TET has worked with over a thousand senior and middle leaders and approximately 100 community schools from the North West through its leadership programmes, accredited by the National College for Teaching and Leadership. The TET team are drawn from a range of backgrounds and have worked in all types of schools.

*Additionally:*

- TET has worked with **Blackburn Central High School (formerly Blakewater College)** and is the Lead Partner on the Trust established to run the School. The partnership has allowed BCHS to improve governance and standards. This has included acceleration in improvement of both attendance and attainment at the school. These improvements represent the school’s best ever performance in its history and as a result was recognised as being the second most improved school in the country by the SSAT in 2013.
- **Culcheth High** is a large community school in the heart of semi-rural Warrington. When last inspected the school was judged to be “a good school”. In a bid to secure a judgement of ‘outstanding’ in its next inspection Culcheth approached TET and requested that we might work with them to help improve the quality of their Teaching and Leadership so that more was good or outstanding. We worked with the full senior and middle leadership teams and helped them to develop a coaching programme to further improve teaching. The end of year exams show an upturn in student progress but the greater impact is anticipated at the end of 2015/16 once the programmes have been extended and embedded across the school.
- Tauheedul is now working with **Suddell Primary School in Darwen** as part of the Government’s School to School Support programme. The school was judged by Ofsted to ‘require improvement’ and had seen falling results. TET has brought in a Deputy Headteacher from an outstanding Primary School in Blackburn and an expert in behaviour for learning, to work with the new headteacher on improving planning and teaching. At the end of 2014/15 results in the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are improving to being in line with or just above national averages.
- Tauheedul previously supported **Hawthorns Junior School**. At the start of the support programme the school was in Special Measures; however after working with TET the school moved up a

category. Following the intensive work at KS2 on assessment, tracking, using data to inform planning, teaching and intervention, coaching and quality assurance, results almost doubled to the school's best ever results. The following February, a monitoring visit confirmed that the school was still making 'good progress'.

- TET has supported **Pleckgate High School** which had been placed in Special Measures. Intensive school improvement support was provided, leading them through three Ofsted monitoring visits, the third of which was turned into a full inspection and removed the school from this category. In terms of academic progress, the school made significant improvements in outcomes for the young people: GCSE results had previously shown a three year downward trend; however, based on first (rather than best) sitting this decline was arrested in a year when most other school faced a fall in exam results and they have continued to rise.

### **What is TET's vision?**

TET brings a drive for excellence, a strong belief in students becoming ambassadors in, and for, the local community and a commitment to supporting children to achieve their full potential. This is about delivering a better deal for students and parents. That means more children going to university, more children getting better grades and more children doing the courses and subjects that will help them to succeed.

### **Meet the people: who are the TET leadership?**

TET's Chief Executive is Hamid Patel who was awarded a CBE for his work in the education sector. He is supported by a professional board of highly experienced individuals with outstanding track records in school leadership, education management and business.

The TET Board includes a former Regional Director of Ofsted, a former Director of Education, the Chief Executive of a Local Authority, a Deputy Lord Lieutenant and individuals with specialist legal, business and teaching expertise.

### **Where can I find more information about TET?**

Do visit [www.tetrust.org](http://www.tetrust.org)

## **MYTH BUSTING**

- TET will continue to run non-denominational schools on a non-faith basis and there is no plan to implement a faith ethos where it hasn't been before. This is precisely the reason why we have set up a non-faith division of the Trust to work with your school.
- TET runs a number of faith schools, but also supports community schools with school improvement support and has trained hundreds of the next generation of school leaders across the North West.
- The curriculum TET promotes will be broad and balanced to equip students for the pathways that lead to university, the professions and success in whatever career they eventually choose. TET will work with schools to provide an academic, but rounded, education with Modern British Values its heart, which gives children the best possible chance to succeed.