

Harry Watts Academy's Journey



2018

Prosper Learning Trust is formed

Jan

Mar



Academy Development

Prosper Learning Trust is announced as the approved sponsors of the Sunderland Special Free School

Academy Development

The first meeting of the Project Steering Group whose remit is to oversee the development of the new academy and includes the Chair of Trustees, CEO and LA representative.

Oct

2019

Feb

Branding

The name of the new school is confirmed as Harry Watts Academy.



HARRY WATTS ACADEMY
SUPPORT AND SUCCESS TOGETHER

Branding and Uniform

The academy logo and pupil uniform are approved by the Project Steering Group.

Nov

2020

Jan



Leadership

The Headteacher designate takes up post 9 months prior to the academy opening. A vastly experienced SEND Headteacher with prior experience of opening a free school.

Academy Development

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic concerns grow to potential delays in the new build opening date. As a result the Trust and LA agree to develop a temporary provision at the former Harraton Primary school. The DfE agrees to development and works begin immediately to get the provision ready for September 2020.

Apr

May

Leadership

Deputy Headteacher appointed and formally takes up post in September but works with the Headteacher to prepare the school for opening.



Governance

The Local Advisory Committee is formally delegated the responsibility for the school from the Project Steering Group.



Jun



Outcomes

The pre-opening Ofsted inspection is passed with flying colours.

Sep

Academy Opens

The new academy opens on the Harraton site, initially with 16 pupils. Pupils and parents are delighted. Discussions with the Local Authority take place and plans to develop the Harraton site as the long term expansion plan for the academy are set in motion. A Significant Change Application is submitted to the DfE to increase place numbers to 160 pupils.



Outcomes

The academy undergoes a DfE inspection and passes once again with flying colours.

Nov

Dec



New Build Handover

The new building is handed over to Harry Watts Academy on 18th December 2020.

2021

Jan

Academy Development

The school roll increases to 41. The DfE approves the Significant Change Application.



Apr



Academy New Build Opens

The new build opened to pupils on 15th April 2021.

Our Journey Continues.....