

MEDIA RELEASE

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Meridian Trust's East of England teacher training provider celebrating outstanding Ofsted

Future school teachers in Cambridgeshire and wider across the East of England are receiving 'outstanding' training, Ofsted has announced.

In this inspection of Meridian Trust Initial Teacher Training (ITT) – named The Cambridge Partnership – not only was the overall effectiveness rated as 'Outstanding' but the quality of education and training, and leadership and management also received this top judgement.

The inspection praised the ITT's "crystal-clear understanding of the needs of schools in the region".

Centred at Meridian Trust's Swavesey Village College, the ITT has developed strong partnerships with more than 100 schools across the region including in Norfolk, Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire. There are currently 108 trainees enrolled in the primary and secondary phases.

The inspection looked at every aspect of the trainee programme, including how it works effectively with other organisations and included visits to eight schools that the ITT works with.

To highlight some of the positive comments in the report:

- Its trainees benefit hugely from the intricate precision with which their training programmes are planned. Fine details are considered to ensure they develop the essential skills of being a teacher.
- The provider is driven by a strong moral purpose to meet the needs of all pupils. They make sure trainees know how to, and that they must, adapt their teaching to meet the needs of all pupils, including those with SEND.
- Trainees' understanding is checked well by programme managers in formal assessments. If trainees need additional support, the partnership provides it.

Mark Woods, Meridian Trust CEO, said: "I am thrilled with the fantastic news of this Ofsted success that reflects the dedication and hard work of everyone involved.

"I am particularly proud of the positive feedback highlighted in the report, which acknowledges our clear understanding of the region's school needs."

The Cambridge Partnership was last inspected by Ofsted in 2017, when the overall effectiveness was judged as 'Good'.

Richard Davies, Director of Initial Teacher Training at Meridian Trust, said: "We are immensely proud of this recognition, which reflects the collective effort and expertise of our staff, partners, and trainees.

"The feedback in the report demonstrates how hard the staff with the ITT and our schools work to help our trainees to grow and thrive as exceptional teachers."

The full report is available to view here: <https://campartnership.org/who-we-are/>

The ITT is recruiting for its September 2024 programme now. For further information, visit: <https://campartnership.org/how-to-apply/> or call 01223 491630.

Notes to Editor:

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The Cambridge Partnership (TCP) & The Pilgrim Partnership (TPP) form Meridian Trust ITT. We work to provide inspirational teachers and future school leaders for a significant area of the East of England.

TCP & TPP offers all main routes and all main subjects to ensure that the teachers of tomorrow have the best possible chance of developing the transferable skills necessary for the wide variety of school contexts in the East of England and beyond.

For further information, visit: <https://campartnership.org/>

For further information on Meridian Trust, visit: <https://www.meridiantrust.co.uk/>