



Diverse Academies  
*Learning Partnership*



# Star Awards

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STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS 2017

## CATEGORY GUIDE

\*Nominations can include predicted outcomes for exam/SAT/phonics screening tests. The judges will not make a decision until the final results are known.

### **ACADEMY OF THE YEAR\***

From early years to secondary and beyond, the key challenge for all educators is to spark and nurture a love for learning for life. This coveted title will be awarded to an academy based on its performance in the academic year 2016/17. It applies equally to those who have experienced rapid improvement or whom are maintaining continued excellence. The judges will want to see more than academic achievement. Entries should demonstrate innovation, imagination and efforts to develop children in ways that go beyond the league tables. You should provide evidence to support your nomination. Data analysis, report extracts or external testimonials will outline how you have collaborated with others to improve and sustain success, the challenges you have had to overcome, and how you have inspired and engaged students to enable them to achieve both academically and socially.

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR (SECONDARY)\***

This award is about celebrating teaching excellence in a secondary context. We are looking for someone who motivates and inspires students. A teacher who really stands out from the crowd, listens to and makes students feel valued. The secondary teacher of the year will be inspirational and engaging, helping to ensure their students achieve their full academic and social potential. The judges will want to see how the teacher creates a climate for learning in the classroom that is characterised by enthusiasm, high expectations and outstanding results. This teacher will draw on a wide range of approaches, actively monitor the experience and progress of each student, and adjusts his or her approach to take account of the needs of individual students and the class as a whole. This teacher will engage others in supporting students' learning and development, including colleagues, parents and other professionals. He or she will also contribute beyond the classroom to the life of the academy and show a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development.

### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR (PRIMARY)\***

This award is about celebrating teaching excellence in a primary context. We are looking for someone who motivates and inspires students. A teacher who really stands out from the crowd, listens to and makes students feel valued. The primary teacher of the year will be inspirational and engaging, helping to ensure their students achieve their full academic and social potential. The judges will want to see how the teacher creates a climate for learning in the classroom that is characterised by enthusiasm, high expectations and outstanding results. This teacher will draw on a wide range of approaches, actively monitor the experience and progress of each student, and adjusts his or her approach to take account of the needs of individual students and the class as a whole. This teacher will engage others in supporting students' learning and development, including colleagues, parents and other professionals. He or she will also contribute beyond the classroom to the life of the academy and show a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development.

### **NEW TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

This award is about celebrating the success and potential of those in their early stages of their teaching career, and is open to all teachers in their first, second or third year of teaching. The new teacher of the year will be inspirational and engaging, helping to ensure their students achieve their full academic and social potential. The judges will want to see how the teacher creates a climate for learning in the classroom that is characterised by enthusiasm, high expectations and outstanding results. This teacher will draw on a wide range of approaches, actively monitor the experience and progress of each student, and adjusts his or her approach to take account of the needs of individual students and the class as a whole. This teacher will engage others in supporting students' learning and development, including colleagues, parents and other professionals. He or she will also contribute beyond the classroom to the life of the academy and show a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development.

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## **PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT AWARD**

This award is for an individual or a team that can demonstrate a unique and imaginative initiative which can show tangible results from working in partnership, whether formally or informally. The award will recognise and celebrate staff who have made an outstanding contribution to their academy and community through collaboration and engagement with others, extolling our core values of encouraging diversity, and sharing and co-developing best practice for the benefit of all. The judges will be looking to see evidence of successful collaboration with other academies across DALP, local businesses, universities or colleges, or with parents and local people – projects that demonstrate creativity, energy and a business-like approach to delivering great results.

## **TEAM OF THE YEAR (TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT)**

Learning support staff, such as teaching assistants, learning mentors or technicians, play a vital role in today's classrooms by making sure students get the most out of their lessons. This award will celebrate the collective and lasting impact of a team involved in teaching and learning support. The judges will want to see evidence of how the team works together to provide support that inspires and engages students, to help them achieve their full academic and social potential. The nomination must detail the role of the team, and outline what they set out to achieve, how they achieved their vision and goals, and the impact of the team. The judges will consider how the team improves teaching and learning, the added value they bring, how they overcame any challenges, and how the team works with others to the benefit of the academy community and stakeholders more widely.

## **STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR (TEACHING AND LEARNING SUPPORT)**

Learning support staff, such as teaching assistants, learning mentors or technicians, play a vital role in today's classrooms by making sure students get the most out of their lessons. This award is about celebrating the individual achievements of a staff member of teaching and learning support. The nomination should outline how the individual supports the learning environment by actively engaging and collaborating with others in support of students' learning and development, including teachers, parents and other professionals. This individual will support students in pursuit of clear goals, even when the challenge is great or the outcome seems uncertain. He or she will show a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development, as well as a positive contribution to the whole staff team.

## **TEAM OF THE YEAR (BUSINESS DIRECTORATE)**

This award will go to a team from an operational, administrative or technical area within the business directorate, who has gone the extra mile to provide high quality professional advice and the delivery of professional expertise which exceeded expectations. The judges will want to see evidence of how the team works together to provide professional expertise that aid the teaching and learning environment and the smooth operations of academies. The nomination must detail the role of the team, and outline what they set out to achieve, how they achieved their vision and goals, and the impact of the team. The judges will consider how the team improves professional standards, the added value they bring, how they overcame any challenges, and how the team works with others to the benefit of academy communities and stakeholders more widely.

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### **TEAM OF THE YEAR (ACADEMY SUPPORT)**

This award will go to a team from an operational, administrative or technical area within an academy support function, who has gone the extra mile to provide high quality student and staff support which exceeded expectations. The judges will want to see evidence of how the team works together to provide support services that aid the teaching and learning environment and the smooth operations of an academy. The nomination must detail the role of the team, and outline what they set out to achieve, how they achieved their vision and goals, and the impact of the team. The judges will consider how the team improves support services, the added value they bring, how they overcame any challenges, and how the team works with others to the benefit of academy communities and stakeholders more widely.

### **STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR (BUSINESS DIRECTORATE / ACADEMY SUPPORT)**

This award is about celebrating the individual achievements of a staff member within the business directorate or in an academy support role – in an operational, administrative or technical area – and who has gone the extra mile to deliver a high quality service or professional expertise to staff and/or students. The nomination should outline how the individual supports their operational area by actively engaging and collaborating with others to deliver professional expertise or an excellent support service. He or she will take an innovative approach to finding solutions to challenges, take opportunities to enhance service/professional standards and seek out best practice where ever it is. He or she will also show a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development, as well as a positive contribution to the whole staff team.

### **LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT AWARD (EDUCATION)**

This award will recognise and celebrate the achievements of an outstanding leader, who can draw on a range of leadership styles and behaviours to manage people and situations over the short, medium and long term. The judges will be looking for evidence of a positive attitude that has inspired others – an individual who presents a clear and compelling vision for success which is understood by their whole team. He or she will be able to engage and secure the commitment of key stakeholders, such as governors, parents, staff and students. They are able to ensure the appropriate resources are available to develop the capacity of their area or academy to deliver its vision. This leader will create a learning environment characterised by a culture and climate of high expectations, an enthusiasm for teaching and learning, and a commitment to achieving outstanding results.

### **LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT AWARD (BUSINESS DIRECTORATE / ACADEMY SUPPORT)**

This award will recognise and celebrate the achievements of an outstanding leader, who can draw on a range of leadership styles and behaviours to manage people and situations over the short, medium and long term. The judges will be looking for evidence of a positive attitude that has inspired others – an individual who presents a clear and compelling vision for success which is understood by their whole team. He or she will be able to engage and secure the commitment of key stakeholders, such as governors, staff, students or suppliers. They are able to ensure the appropriate resources are available to develop the capacity of their area or academy to deliver its vision. This leader will create a professional environment characterised by a culture and climate of high expectations, an enthusiasm for aiding teaching and learning, and a commitment to ensuring the provision of outstanding professional expertise and excellent support services.

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## GOVERNANCE AWARD

Our governors are highly valued members of the Diverse Academies, who give up their time to make a difference to the lives of the children and young people of our communities. As volunteers, their work comes with no financial gain. This award seeks to recognise and celebrate the contribution of an individual governor or governance team whose commitment, skill and teamwork has exceeded expectations to provide an exceptional, high quality governance service. The nomination will detail how an individual or a team – through their work within a portfolio of responsibility, on a local academy board or at a trust board level – provides a professional oversight of an academy's or group's financial performance to ensure money is well spent, effectively holds the leadership to account for the educational performance of an academy or academies and its students, and ensures the overall clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is aimed at someone who has made a significant contribution to education and can be from either a teaching and learning, business or support function. The nominee can be from any level within the Diverse Academies, whether a highly visible individual or an unsung hero. The nomination should summarise what the individual has achieved over their career in education and why you feel they deserve the award. He or she will have acted purposefully to achieve their goals with outstanding results. Their contribution and impact will have furthered the Diverse Academies' vision – which other members of staff have benefited from. He or she will be a role model to others and shows a continuing commitment to their own professional learning and personal development.