

Cedars Academy Trust

AGM

Chief Executive Report
6th December 2021



We are a community of staff, parents and governors whose aim is to nurture, inspire and prepare our pupils...

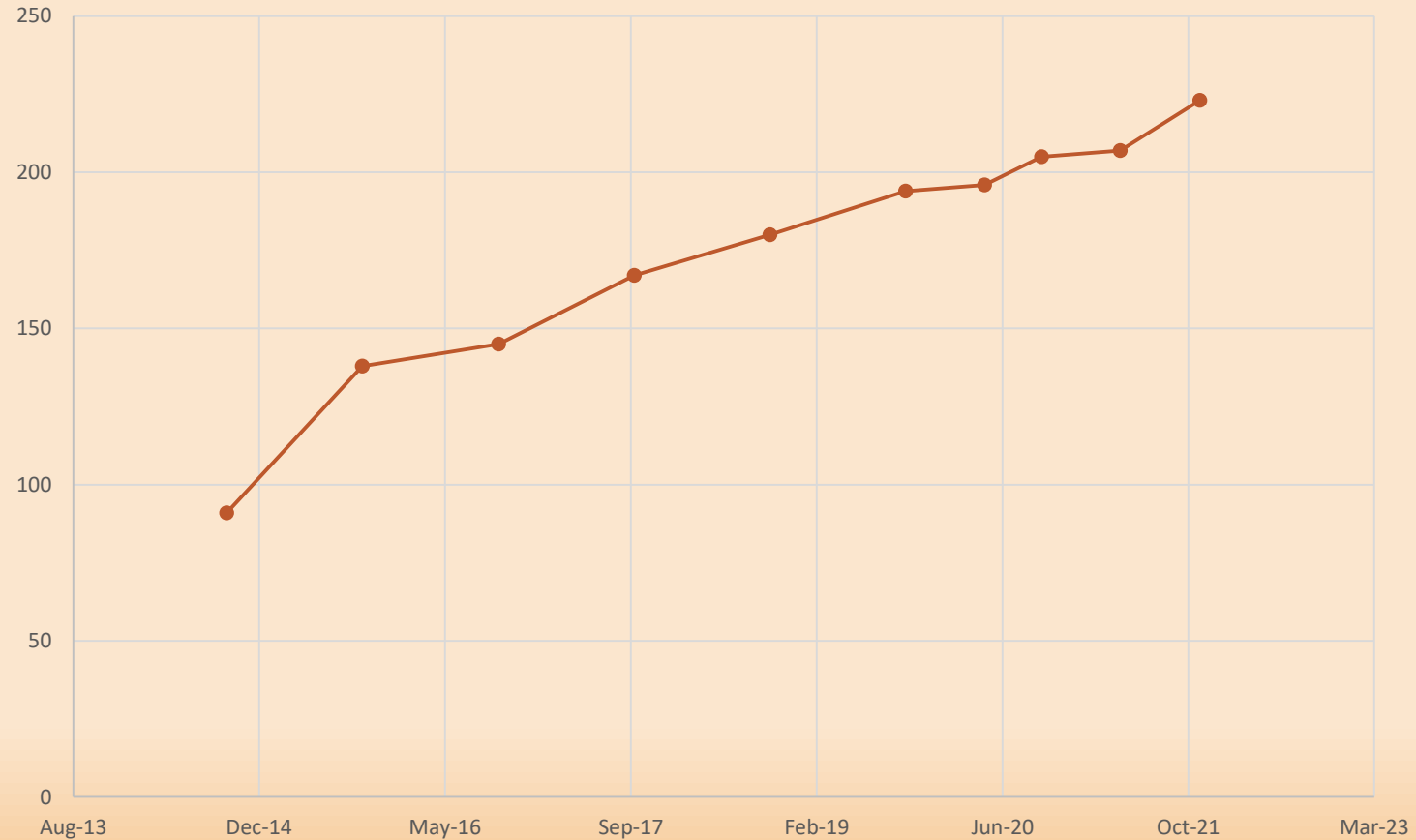
Fit for Life in body and mind; happy, healthy and wholly equipped for life



Growth in pupil numbers

- Dec 2021: **223** pupils on roll
- 24 in KS1, 60 in KS2, 78 in KS3, 36 in KS4 and 25 in KS5
- School: 162 pupils
College: 61 students
- X8 class groups in KS1&2, average class sizes of 10/11 children
- X9 class groups in KS3 average class sizes for x4 groups of 11/12 children, x5 smaller groups of average size 6/7 pupils
- X9 group groups in KS4/5 average size 6/7 students
- 93 employees
30 Teachers: 57 Support Staff
3 Admin: 3 Catering

Academy Population over the past six years



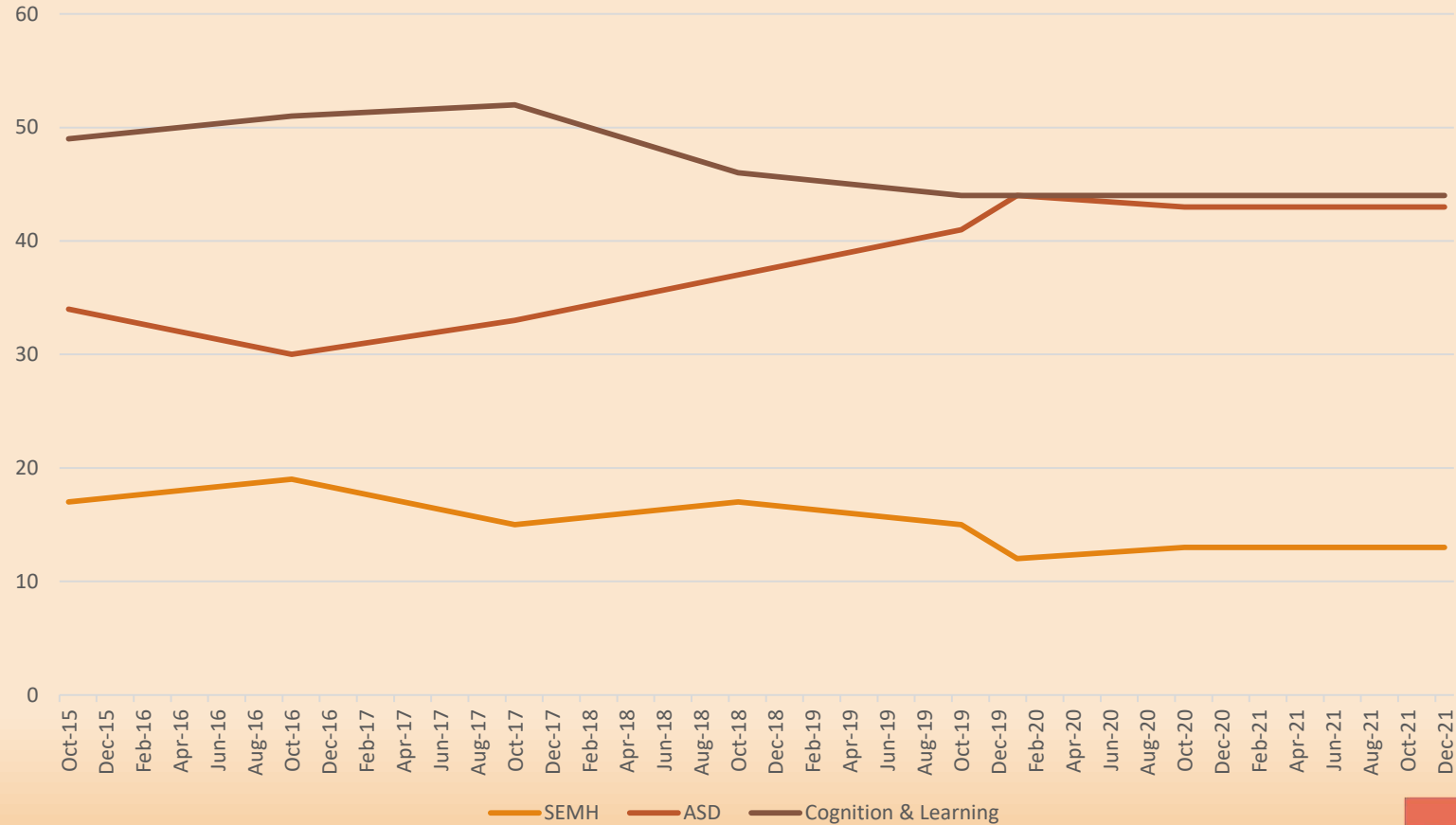
Pupil Barriers to Learning

School population by banding/barrier to learning

Primary Need (Banding):

- 43% ASD
- 44% Cognition & Learning
- 13% Social, Emotional and Mental Health
- 80% students banded 2 or 3

Pupil Banding/Barrier to Learning over the past six years



Response to Covid-19: Reflecting on a Difficult Year

Structure of the School Day and Internal Organisation

- Calmer and more orderly start and ends
- Fewer moves and transitions
- Consistent and sustained approaches
- Not holding large gatherings and managing with virtual meetings
- Children spending more time outdoors

The Importance of Effective Relationships

- Focus on supporting our most vulnerable pupils
- Improved and robust systems of communication and family support
- Positive achievements, support and advice
- Strengthen our relationships and positive interventions with families

Well-Being is Central

- Community wellbeing has also been paramount
- Focus on staff voice, empowerment and greater independence and flexibility



Successes 2020-2021

Our New Curriculum

- Developmental and Holistic approach
- Importance of Preparation for Adulthood (PfA)

Accommodation and Facilities

- Physical Development and Sensory Integration is central
- Proactive, Therapeutic Interventions
- Age and stage appropriate environment and PfA opportunities

Leadership Restructure: Transformational Leadership

- Transformational Leadership Model
- Staff Empowerment and Ownership, staff voice and greater independence
- Staff take authority over decisions and have more room to be creative
- Impact on the quality of education and increasing our capacity to continue to grow
- Research Engaged Learning is leading developments
- Established renown, respect and authority within our local learning community



Our Plans for 2021-2022

Behaviour, Attitude and Personal Development

- Programs to support our Thrive priorities
- Strengthen our understanding of, and response to, family needs

Quality of Education

- Refine our methods of accessing impact
- A Total Communication School
- At the forefront of pedagogical and curriculum development in Specialist Education
- Outdoor space to enhance and deliver experiences
- Offer of specialised wrap around care
- Provide support network and advocacy arrangements
- Enhance our range of opportunities for Preparation for Adulthood for 14-19 and into the 19+ group

Leadership & Management

- Understanding of our position within Gateshead SEN Provision offer
- Continued development of facilities and accommodation
- Develop the capacity of our partner organizations to affect change



It has been an extremely challenging year, however, our teams have been amazingly resilient and professional, and doing whatever they can to help us keep running and providing our students with an uninterrupted, highly effective education.

We are very lucky to have such amazing children and young people, wonderfully supportive parents and totally committed, outstanding staff!

Cedars Academy Trust AGM

Chief Executive Update

6th December 2021

