

# SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR THE EDUCATION SECTOR

*...we're with you.*

**ArmstrongWatson<sup>®</sup>**

Accountants, Business & Financial Advisers

[www.armstrongwatson.co.uk](http://www.armstrongwatson.co.uk)



## OUR EXPERTISE

Our team of education specialists act extensively with multi-academy trusts, colleges, independent schools and nurseries. We are passionate about the education sector and making a real, tangible difference to our clients.

Our experienced, 30-strong education team, can support you whatever your educational establishment, whether it's a private school, a single academy trust, a MAT or a Further Education College. You can expect to receive the highest level of advice and support, and we believe we can add real value to your organisation.

With offices based across the major North of England and Scotland centres, our local knowledge, combined with our sector expertise, ensures you benefit from working with an adviser who understands the issues that may affect your organisation. We are committed to working alongside you, providing support across an extensive list of financial areas. Our goal is to help you achieve peace of mind and ensure your organisations continue to prosper.



“ We brought Armstrong Watson in as auditors and tax advisers and have found them to be excellent.

A common sense approach to things has been most welcome and I have no hesitation in recommending them.

Stuart Slorach -  
Vice Principal (Resources),  
The Northern School of Art

“ Our partnership with Armstrong Watson allowed us to have confidence in the audit process, clarity in what we needed to do next to further improve and a strong collegiate working relationship built on consistency and professionalism.

Peter Ashworth -  
CEO, Cidari Multi Academy Trust



“ With a good understanding of the sector, together with attention to detail and professionalism of their staff, we would be happy to recommend Armstrong Watson as a provider of accountancy services for a Multi Academy Trust and other educational settings.

Delta Academies Trust



## HOW WE CAN HELP

We're here to offer all the services – and then some – of a regional accountancy firm, but what you'll also take from us is real, solid sector advice, gained from our extensive local knowledge and wide-ranging expertise. Here are just a few of the areas where we can offer support...



### Audit and Independent Examination

We provide financial statements and regularity audits. Our large Education team has the capacity and capability to deliver a robust review of your year-end numbers, insight into your processes and controls, all well before the annual ESFA reporting deadlines. Our audit offering includes grant audits, which help you secure valuable DfE funding on a timely basis, and the annual audit of the Teachers' Pension Scheme and the Academy Accounts Return.



### Accounting assistance

Our accounting team can assist with preparing the year-end financial statements and advise on accounting system structures, including the nominal ledger chart of accounts.



### VAT Services

VAT is often one of the most complex taxes to navigate. Our dedicated team of experienced VAT specialists can provide a full range of VAT compliance and advisory services to assist you in dealing with VAT.



### Payroll Services

Our award winning payroll team are able to advise on all employee related tax and pension issues, as well as providing excellent outsourced payroll services.



### Pensions and Financial Planning

Our team of Chartered Financial Planners are readily placed to offer advice and support in respect of pension commitments and can act as investment managers for investment based portfolios, including cash management.



### Corporate Finance

Our corporate finance team can provide assistance with cash flow projection and budgeting, and input into funding structures, providing the flexibility to explore avenues of future growth. They can help plan your short and long term strategy, and offer a sounding board and challenge to help achieve your future plans.



### Governor Training

We are able to provide training to the Members of the Board on any financial subject of your choice. This may be training in relation to Members' role and responsibilities or topical issues facing the sector. It may be training to help understand accounts, or looking forward 'new best practice guidance'.



### Corporate Tax

Our specialist tax team are able to provide advice as to whether any activities could be considered to be 'trading activities' and, if needed, help ensure these are structured in the most effective manner.



### Fraud and Cyber Security


The Education sector has historically been vulnerable to increasingly sophisticated fraud attempts, including cyber-attacks. Our forensic and IT teams can help you ensure your organisation is well-placed to resist these attacks.

Contact one of our education sector experts today via the details below, or email [help@armstrongwatson.co.uk](mailto:help@armstrongwatson.co.uk)



**Yorkshire and Humber**


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**North West and Scotland**


**Karen Rae - Audit & Assurance Director**

 01228 690166



**North East**

**Simon Turner - Audit & Assurance Partner**

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