

**Yvonne Hare**  
**Head of Marketing, Communications and Projects**  
[Hare.y@whiteroseacademies.org](mailto:Hare.y@whiteroseacademies.org)  
[www.whiteroseacademies.org](http://www.whiteroseacademies.org)  
@WRAcademies

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**Local contractor, Esh Construction, makes significant donation following announcement of Leeds West Academy expansion scheme.**

Following the recent news of their commencement on the £3.9 million project to increase capacity at Leeds West Academy to 1,500, Esh Construction site staff, along with suppliers and sub-contractors, have donated £550 to the Cash for Kids' Mission Christmas Appeal.

Cash for Kids is a charity which aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people and is well known for its annual Mission Christmas campaign, backed by local radio station partners.

The donation, which sees the company give generously to the appeal for a second year in succession, was part of a wider contribution that totalled £3,500.

**Esh's Senior Project Manager, Allan Irvine, who is currently delivering the scheme at Leeds West Academy, said: "The pandemic has been challenging for everyone, particularly for those living in poverty. Giving back to the local community is at the core of Esh's values and I am immensely proud of the generosity of all involved for their support of the Mission Christmas appeal."**

The White Rose Academies Trust would like to thank the Esh Group for their wonderful gesture and very much look forward to working together on an exciting scheme, which will enhance the already world-class facilities at Leeds West Academy.

**ABOUT WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST**

Following a rapid improvement programme across Leeds City Academy, Leeds East Academy and Leeds West Academy, the young people within the White Rose Academies Trust are now benefiting from a greatly enhanced education.

New leadership, exceptional teaching and cutting-edge facilities equip students with the unique skills and personal confidence to fully meet their aspirations and potential.

Chief Executive Officer: **Andrew Whitaker**  
Executive Principal: **Christian Wilcocks**  
P: **Bedford Field, Woodhouse Cliff, Leeds, LS6 2LG**  
T: **0113 284 4260**  
E: [info@whiteroseacademies.org](mailto:info@whiteroseacademies.org) W: [www.whiteroseacademies.org](http://www.whiteroseacademies.org)

The White Rose Academies Trust is a local Trust dedicated to raising and fulfilling the ambitions of young people.

Our academies throughout Leeds are at the heart of the communities they serve, which is why we are committed to delivering an outstanding education to every one of our students.

In December 2020, Alder Tree Primary Academy joined the White Rose Academies Trust and appointed primary education leader Kate Burton in the role of Principal.

The Trust employs over 500 outstanding professionals who are committed to unlocking the potential of the next generation.

The White Rose Academies Trust is a member of Luminate Education Group, the largest education provider in Yorkshire. Other members of the group include Keighley College, Harrogate College, Leeds City College and Leeds Conservatoire.

The Chief Executive Officer of the White Rose Academies Trust is Andrew Whitaker. Andrew joined the White Rose Academies Trust as Executive Principal on 1st September 2016, with a personal determination that all White Rose Academies will become world class providers of education to the communities that they serve by 2025.

In 2018, Andrew was awarded a prestigious Churchill Fellowship. Andrew's previous work includes leading the transformation of Todmorden High School. Website - [www.whiteroseacademies.org](http://www.whiteroseacademies.org)