

Academy Conversion Consultation Information

Proposal

The Governors of St Nicholas C of E Primary School are proposing to form a Multi Academy Trust with Coughton C of E Primary School and Temple Grafton C of E Primary School.

Introduction

This document contains more information about the proposal for St Nicholas C of E Primary School to convert from a Single Academy Trust to a Multi Academy Trust with Coughton C of E Primary School and Temple Grafton Primary School.

What is an Academy and what is a Multi Academy Trust (MAT)?

Academies are local schools which are funded by public money directly from central government and not the local authority. St Nicholas C of E Primary School is already an Academy.

A Multi Academy Trust (MAT) oversees the strategic collaboration of its member schools. The MAT will ensure that the three schools are committed to working together to continue to improve and maintain high educational standards. The MAT is ultimately responsible for the performance of each school, although each school will still have their own governing body known as a Local Governing Body.

New academies, in particular small school academies, are now required to join Multi Academy Trusts which is why we are proposing forming our own.

Why are the governors proposing this?

St Nicholas C of E Primary School has been working in partnership with Coughton C of E Primary School since September 2015 with Mr Walsh as Executive Headteacher across both schools. His role has been a strategic one with Mrs O'Shea as Head of School leading the day to day running of the school. As this agreement is for two years, the governors wish to formalise the agreement between the two schools. Temple Grafton C of E Primary School have been exploring academisation and as the three schools already work closely together, it is a logical step for us to work together more formally. Mr Walsh and Mrs O'Shea will work collaboratively with the Headteacher of Temple Grafton C of E Primary School and will continue to work with Coughton in the same way as they have been.

What are the advantages of working in this way?

The MAT is committed to promoting strong collaboration across the family of schools and ensuring accountability to build on the already high standards present in all three schools. All three schools have a very similar approach to the curriculum with a commitment to experiential learning and outdoor learning opportunities such as Forest School. Staff already work collaboratively across the three schools; the formation of the MAT will formalise this collaborative approach and allow us to share expertise, resources and planning.

Instead of teachers and subject leaders working in isolation, they will be able to work together across schools. Being part of a MAT, the schools will be working together which will enable us to secure better opportunities for staff and curriculum development.

Who is the Trust?

The new trust will comprise of a board of Trustees, these trustees will be drawn from the three governing bodies. The Trustees will be accountable and responsible for the schools within the MAT this includes school finances, Health and Safety and personnel.

What will be the Vision and Values of the MAT

Governors of all three schools are committed to maintaining the Christian distinctiveness of the schools and have agreed that the purpose of the MAT is *Inspiring Educational Excellence for Everyone*. We will live out this vision through five core virtues:

Collaboration, Respect, Inspiration, Hope and Nurture.

Collaboration

As a family of schools we will work together for the benefit of all our children; celebrating both the similarities and differences of each school's individual ethos and values.

Respect

In our family of schools, we are committed to the dignity, value and well-being of each individual. We are tolerant and inclusive, we appreciate difference and need for change and embrace the views of all members of the community through Christian values.

Inspiration

Inspiration breathes life into our schools. In our schools children will experience a creative and engaging curriculum full of opportunities for them to flourish. Our staff will be encouraged to develop and grow through excellent professional development.

Hope

As a family of schools we look to the future with hope and aspiration. We are a community with an optimistic and positive attitude where we learn to show trust, resilience and aspiration for the future.

Nurture

We believe in educating and caring for the whole child, not just academic excellence but physical and intellectual development united with spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. When making decisions, we put the needs of our children first ensuring that they and their families are valued and supported holistically.

Our ambition is to continuously improve the schools and the education we offer to our children.

The consultation period will be from 6th March to 31st March. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have to representatives from the Governing Body and the School's Leadership Team at a drop-in session that will be held on Tuesday 14th March at 6.30pm. You can also express your views in writing to the Clerk to The Governing Body at the school address or via email to consultation3595@welearn365.com