



26th January 2018

Update regarding the proposed formation of Arden Forest C of E Multi Academy Trust (MAT)

Dear Parents and Carers

Last year we informed parents that the governors of St Nicholas C of E Primary School, Temple Grafton C of E Primary School and Coughton C of E Primary School were proposing to form a Multi Academy Trust (MAT).

Since the consultation period, we have been conducting due diligence to ensure that none of the schools present a risk to the MAT. The areas that were considered were: finance, school effectiveness (quality of teaching, learning and leadership), governance, premises and Health and Safety. After careful consideration of each of the reports the governors of each school have agreed, this month, to the formation of the MAT.

There are clear benefits of working in this way. The main benefit to collaborative working will be on teaching, learning and leadership. There are highly effective teaching strategies and engaging curriculums that we can share and develop and the MAT will guarantee a shared commitment to working together in the years to come. Senior leaders and subject leaders are able to share ideas and work together rather than in isolation. Working in this way will ensure the quality of teaching and learning remains high and children have the best possible primary school experience. Through committing to working together, there are also financial savings to be had in economies of scale and procurement.

The MAT will have a trust board which will be made up of governors from each of the three schools so that each school is fairly represented. The local governing body of each school will continue to operate in the same way and each school will retain its unique identity and be recognised as a core part of the local community in which it is located.

The name of the new MAT will be Arden Forest C of E Multi Academy Trust as this ancient area covers the area within which all three schools are located. Coughton C of E Primary School and Temple Grafton C of E Primary School intend to academise and join St Nicholas C of E Primary School on 1st April 2018 to form the MAT.

The schools have been working closely together for over a year now and the staff and governors are excited by the prospect of formalising our collaboration and further improving on the high standards in each school.

Kind regards

Adam Walsh
Executive Headteacher
Coughton Primary School and St Nicholas Primary School

Sarah Hendry
Headteacher
Temple Grafton Primary School

Nick Moon
Chair of Governors
Coughton Primary School

Sue Heap
Chair of Governors
St Nicholas Primary School

Cathy Baron
Chair of Governors
Temple Grafton Primary School