

Consultation on proposed conversion to academy status and the formation of a multi-academy trust (MAT)



What are we proposing to do ?

Step 1: For Elvington CE Primary School to apply to convert to academy status

Step 2: For Elvington CE Primary School to join with a number of our partner primary schools to create a mixed Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)



Reasons for seeking to establish a MAT

- **To ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our children by:**
- Strengthening and formalising our current partnership working to benefit our school community
- Creating a family of schools who work together to improve the standards of teaching and curriculum provision
- Creating a through school framework
- Driving up standards by sharing best practice
- Increasing our capacity to improve
- Responding to the changing local and national context

Working together, we can all achieve success



Further reasons for seeking to establish a MAT

- To achieve economies of scale and to improve value for money through pooling resources, services and support
- To improve recruitment, retention, continuing professional development and succession planning
- To shape our own destiny within a changing school system
- To future proof our school as far as possible against changes in the legislative and policy framework for education



The Changing National Context

- Government proposals envisage all schools becoming academies
- All new schools must be free schools with academy status
- Local Authorities are losing their role in school improvement
- York MATs are currently involved in a range of school to school support improvement work both within and beyond the city
- Changes to school funding and cuts in council budgets will further erode LA capacity to support schools



The Changing Local Context

- There are now three cross phase MATs in the city
- Five of the nine mainstream secondary schools are either in MATs or are consulting on MAT status
- A growing number of primary schools are in MATs or are consulting on MAT status
- Low funding levels create unique pressures on York schools
- It is highly likely that York will soon reach the 'tipping point' which would lead to forced conversions



Things that would stay the same

- Maintain our school's individual culture, values, ethos and identity.
- Continue to strive for the best possible education for all our children
- Continue to improve and develop our school to become an 'Outstanding' primary school
- Nurture the Christian ethos and spiritual life on which our school was founded



Things that would stay the same

- There would be no changes to uniform, charges, admissions or SEN support
- The curriculum and assessment models would stay the same
- Staff would be employed by the MAT but would transfer across on existing pay and conditions
- Each school would still have its own Headteacher and local governing body
- The MAT would still work closely with the LA and other schools



Changes under academisation

- The MAT would be run as a charitable company
- It would have a central Board of Trustees and Members who are responsible for standards and finance
- School funding would come directly from the Education Funding Agency rather than the local authority
- It would be responsible to the Regional Schools Commissioner in addition to other external bodies e.g. OFSTED, Siams.
- The MAT would create a structure for joint procurement and joint appointments
- There is the capacity for the MAT to sponsor other schools



Conversion Timeline

- October - November : Consultation
 - The closing date for submissions is 3:30pm on 25th November.
- December : Decision taken by the full governing body
- December – April : Start application process if the proposal is approved
- April – September : Conversion process

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