



Cherry Tree School

Academy Conversion Consultation

I **MAT** | *Inclusive*
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Cherry Tree's route

- Do nothing
- Set up own MAT
- Join a MAT

Academies

- Academies are independent, state-funded schools.
- There are two types of academies:
- Converter academies – those previously with ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ Ofsted grades that have converted to academy status voluntarily.
- Sponsored academies – mostly underperforming schools converting to academy status due to government intervention and academies run by sponsors. “Coasting” schools will be specifically required to convert under an academy order
- They receive funding directly from central government, rather than through a LA.

Multi Academy Trusts (MATs)

- An academy trust that operates more than one academy is known as a Multi Academy Trust (MAT).
- All academies within a MAT are governed by one trust and a single board of Directors. The board of directors is responsible for decisions relating to how each academy is run.
- This is now the preferred Government model with all academy conversions being directed to adopt this route.

An Academy is:

- A state school independent of the LA
- A company limited by guarantee
- An exempt charity
- Funded through the Education Funding Agency (EFA)

The Academy Trust is:

- The admissions authority
- The employer of staff
- The owner or leaseholder of the land and buildings
- Signs the Funding Agreement with the DfE



- Consists of one school – Laurance Haines
- Beechfield in process of converting and would be the second school
- Work together to ensure best possible deal for Watford children



The Inclusive Multi Academy Trust vision is
to:

***Inspire and nurture our children and their
community to be the very best that they
can be.***



The Aims of the IMAT

- The IMAT Schools will:
- ensure that all of their children feel welcome and valued
- adopt an innovative and collaborative approach to learning with the emphasis on enjoyment
- provide a supportive network and guidance for all staff
- promote inclusivity and respect for all, thereby developing good citizenship
- engage fully with and contribute substantially to their local communities
- ensure that all of their children are fully equipped for futures in and beyond their further education.

guidance welcome
children
provide
local futures **nurturing** inclusivity education
good collaborative
communities substantially enjoyment citizenship beyond
developing feel fully community learning
contribute supportive best **innovative**
equipped emphasis **valued**
Inspiring staff approach
network thereby promote
respect engage

What could being an
Academy mean to you?

What stays the same

- Headteacher
- School name
- Uniform

Possible benefits

- Financial/business efficiencies
- Freedom from following the National Curriculum
- Forge strong links with other schools
- Determine our own pupil admission number with greater control over admission procedures
- Ability to change term dates and the lengths of school days
- Opportunities for staff to work across a range of school settings

Staffing

- We are committed to retaining all of our staff
- Staff would be employed by the Academy (Cherry Tree School) as part of the Inclusive Multi Academy Trust with **at least** the same employment terms and conditions
- Pensions would remain the same
- We would have the capacity to enhance staff benefits if finances allowed

Timeline

- Formal consultation
- Due diligence process from both sides
- Check Ofsted grading, finances, school data and strength of the MAT
- Simple conversion – 5/6 months
- Complicating factors could hold this process up

Any Questions?