



28th November 2023

Dear Parents

For some months now we have been working with the St Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust on school improvement and have found that they share our approach to education. It is the Interim Executive Board's intentions for the school to convert to an academy status and to join St Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust. The Interim Executive Board of St Pauls CE (C) Primary School would welcome your views through a consultation on our proposal to move from being a Local Authority Maintained Primary School to joining an existing Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). A MAT is a group of several schools working closely together as one legal entity.

St Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust was founded in 2016 as a stand-alone academy. Since then, St Bartholomew's Multi Academy Trust has steadily grown. It now has nine-member primary schools across Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, and Dudley. Their governance arrangements allow each school to have their own distinctive and individual identity whilst actively working in partnership. The Trust's model offers opportunities to work with other schools locally and across the MAT on such issues as school improvement, and professional development as well as benefitting from economies of scale.

As such, the Interim Executive Board feel that St Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust offers many opportunities to St. Pauls CE (C) Primary School as we continue our journey. As explained in the newsletter recently St Bart's have three other local schools within their academies trust which are Gnosall St Lawrence CE Primary School, Haughton St Giles CE Primary School and Woodseaves CE Primary School.

Our school ethos, values and vision will remain under the control of the school, there will be no change of uniform, curriculum, or policy in terms of admissions, behaviour, or other aspects of pupils' experience.

Benefits of being part of a Multi-Academy Trust

- We will be able to share best practice and expertise with other schools more formally and sustainably than we have done in the past, enabling us to continually improve teaching and learning so that our pupils receive a good education.
- We will be better placed to recruit future teachers, leaders, and support staff so that teaching quality improves and there is less disruption to learning.
- We will be able to share resources and so broaden the curricular, extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities that exist for students.
- We will be able to achieve improved economies of scale in our purchasing and this will enable us to target more funds towards students.

The final decision to join St Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust will be taken by the Interim Executive Board and will be based on the best interests of students, staff, and

the wider community. As part of the decision-making process, the Interim Executive Board is committed to consulting with stakeholders so that their views are considered in reaching a final decision.

The consultation period will cover the six-week period from today, Tuesday 28th November 2023 to Tuesday 23rd January 2024. If you would like to comment on this proposal, or if you have any suggestions or observations you would like to make, then please put them to me in writing via office@st-pauls-stafford.staffs.sch.uk or by post.

Any responses received after 12:00pm on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 will not be considered. A nil response will be interpreted as being broadly supportive of the proposal.

All information regarding this proposal and the consultation process can be found on the school website here:

[Conversion | St Pauls CE \(C\) Primary School \(secure-primarysite.net\)](http://Conversion | St Pauls CE (C) Primary School (secure-primarysite.net))

Yours sincerely,

Kate Bullivant

Chair of Interim Executive Board