



Dear Families

## Formal Consultation

**Proposal:** to convert to academy status and join **The Mosaic Partnership Trust** on the target opening date of between **April and June 2024**.

The proposal above is being considered by our governing body alongside others in South Gloucestershire and North-West Wiltshire.

We are pleased to share the outcome of some on-going work that has taken place with other local schools, to create a new multi-academy trust that centres on high quality provision for our children; opportunities for our staff to flourish and a heart for our local community. All our families, parents, carers, staff, and governors are central to what is a shared vision, as a group of schools we believe we are stronger together. This consultation process both celebrates and underlines our partnership approach and helps us to take the next steps together.

We will be supported on this journey by a strong shadow board of Trustees and Members.

A full list of schools going out to consultation is shown on **page 2** of the 'Consultation Pack'. The pack covers a range of information including:

- Information about Multi-Academy Trusts
- The proposal for the Mosaic Partnership Trust
- The vision and aims of Mosaic Partnership Trust
- What joining the new trust will mean for our children, staff, and the community
- Frequently asked questions

We will be hosting two information sessions for stakeholders via **Microsoft Teams** on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 10 October at 6pm** [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- **Wednesday 18 October at 5pm** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

There are separate dates for the staff of the school which will be shared with Heads and Chairs of Governors.

To inform governors' decision-making, we would like to invite you to participate in a formal consultation process. You can participate by completing an online questionnaire by **Tuesday 24 October 2023**:

<https://forms.office.com/r/N2hK5pBxvX>

The data collected will be used to produce a formal consultation outcomes report for governors' consideration before making a governing body decision on the proposal.

### **Why and What would be the Main Benefits for Pupils and Staff in our School?**

The core aim and purpose of any collaboration is to improve the provision and outcomes for our children and young people. Children are at the heart of our work and there are many aspects of support and guidance which can be enhanced by working more collaboratively. A group of schools working together in a single entity as a Multi-Academy Trust can do lots of things that are harder for stand-alone schools to do. Teachers work and learn together to improve the way they teach, and schools can share practices that make a difference to the quality of teaching.

### **What would be the Main Disadvantages of joining a MAT?**

Greater freedoms would bring additional responsibilities, opportunities, and potential risks for a Trust Board as a charitable company responsible for the performance and fulfilment of statutory duties for a group of schools, rather than just one school. Trust induction and ongoing professional development will be established in the lead in period and after opening and we are confident that by working with specialist advisers and complying with the guidance issued by the Department for Education, these responsibilities and risks will be managed effectively and efficiently. We have secured Trustees that have a wealth of experience including many who already fulfil this role, alongside a serving CEO and CFOO and are therefore confident that they will provide the challenge, support and direction the Trust needs.

### **Would any changes be made to the school because of joining The Mosaic Partnership Trust?**

- The main changes relate to the legal status of the school i.e., from a single local authority maintained school to a group of schools operating as a single legal entity known as a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).
- The Trust would receive funding directly from the Department for Education and allocate it to its schools.
- All staff wherever they are based, would be employed by the Trust, not the Local Authority or governing body.
- The Trust as a single legal entity would be governed by a single Trust Board responsible for overseeing the performance of all schools and ensuring compliance with its statutory duties.

However, committees will be established to work in accordance with the Trust Board's Scheme of Delegation.

In embarking on the exploration of this move, please be assured that the governors do not intend to make any changes on conversion to the name of the school, its unique identity, staffing, pupils' uniform or the school day.

There is also more information about academies on the DfE website:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/academies>

Yours sincerely

*Daniel Webster*    *Amy Barrett*

Headteacher      Chair of Governors