



29 October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

FORMATION OF EMBRACE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

As you will recall, we undertook a consultation exercise with stakeholders in November 2017 around our involvement in the formation of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). This in turn led to our governing body passing a resolution to become a founding member of Embrace MAT. As a result, along with our MAT partners, we submitted a bid to the Department for Education (DfE) to request permission to form Embrace MAT.

We subsequently informed you in May 2018, that the DfE had granted permission for all 7 schools involved in our partnership to form Embrace MAT. Since this announcement, we have continued our work together as schools. This has included forwarding further details to the DfE around how we will work together to further raise educational standards, which has resulted in positive feedback.

The next stage of the process is to make key central appointments for the MAT and to undertake the legal and financial actions that result in the formation of a MAT. This work will take a period of time to complete, but we will be a founding member of Embrace MAT in the near future. In the meantime, we will update you on progress as we move towards conversion.

In order to remind you of the reasons for the formation of Embrace MAT, I have included a separate sheet of 'Frequently Asked Questions' which was issued in a previous letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Southall".

Mr Chris Southall
Principal of Brockington College

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Which schools will be members of Embrace MAT?

Arnesby Church of England Primary School (voluntary controlled). 3–11 age range.

Brockington College (Church of England Academy). 11-16 age range.

Croft Church of England Primary School (voluntary controlled). 2–11 age range.

Huncote Community Primary School Academy Trust. 4 – 11 age range.

Manorfield Church of England Primary School (voluntary controlled). 4–11 age range.

Sherrier Church of England Primary School (voluntary controlled). 4–11 age range.

St Peter's Church of England (aided) Primary School (voluntary aided). 4–11 age range.

What is an Academy?

Academies are state maintained schools free to all children. They are run separately from the local authority, and have an agreement with the Government which provides funding directly to the Academy Trust. They follow the same rules as all other state-funded schools over admissions, pupils with Special Educational Needs and exclusions. They are inspected by Ofsted.

What is a Multi-Academy Trust?

A Multi Academy Trust is a company established to be responsible for a number of Academies. Each Academy remains a separate school, with its own Local Governing Body, but the governors are responsible to a board of directors established for the Trust as a whole. This model is becoming more common, particularly as more primary schools seek academy status.

Within multi academy trusts each school maintains its own identity and ethos. Although the majority of members of the Embrace Multi Academy Trust will be appointed by the Diocese of Leicester, community schools within the trust have their community ethos protected in the legal agreements that establish the Trust.

Why form a Multi-Academy Trust?

Schools across the district have a strong record of accomplishment in working together and building on collective strengths to ensure that all children have access to the very best possible education. Our Governors believe that becoming part of this multi academy trust will strengthen those partnerships and provide enhanced opportunities for schools to collaborate to develop truly great teaching and learning and to ensure best value for money. School leaders and governors are meeting together to help shape this new Trust.

Who will be the members of the local governing body?

A number of governors will be appointed by the Directors of the Embrace Multi Academy Trust, primarily for the skills they bring. But the local governing body also includes two elected parents and one elected member of staff as well as the head teacher. The first governors will be many, if not all, of the existing governors.

Will children attending a primary school in the Trust have priority for admission to a secondary school in the Trust?

No. Schools within the Trust will retain their existing admissions policies and will generally continue to operate open admissions to serve their local communities.

How can I find out more?

More information on Academy status and on multi academy trusts is available on the Department for Education website www.education.gov.uk.