



Kineton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Headteacher Mrs M.A.Pollard

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Dear all,

Parental Consultation for Kineton C. of E. (V.A.) Primary School to Convert to an Academy and Join the Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust

There is increasing direction from both the Department for Education and the Coventry Diocese for schools to convert to Academy Status and join a Multi Academy Trust (MAT). The Governing Board has therefore explored what this might mean for our school, accepting that at some stage conversion is likely to be a requirement. As part of the process, we have also considered MATS which would be a 'good fit' for our school along with preferred timescales if this were to happen. All this has been alongside the key requirement of maintaining our strong school identity.

The conclusion of this process was an agreement by the Governing Board that Kineton proceed to look to convert to academy status and join a multi-academy trust later this academic year for the following reasons:

- To extend our collaboration with other schools, building on current partnerships with local primary schools, in line with school's 5 year strategic plan.
- Both the local diocese and Department for Education are driving the academies agenda forward at a rapid pace and Kineton would benefit from being at the forefront of this.
- There are MATS in the close geographical area that are new and establishing, so Kineton will have the opportunity to be part of the decision-making regarding the direction of their future growth.
- We are currently in a very strong position, financially and academically and therefore have the 'luxury' of choice about the right time and the right MAT to join.
- Opportunities to share best practices and specialisms across schools.
- Increased opportunities for staff growth and development, increasing staff retention.
- Potential of collaborative projects.
- More opportunity to flex the National Curriculum to be more relevant for Kineton Primary School.
- Opportunities for inter-MAT sports events, music and residentials, forest schools etc.



Coventry Diocese has directed its family of schools that they can only join one of seven agreed local MATS. These were analysed and visits made to two local trusts. Following the visits, the Governing Board has agreed to consult with the school community regarding conversion to academy status in order to join the Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust. For further information, please refer to the attached document:

We welcome comments and questions on the proposals . Due to the pandemic, the consultation will be virtual. Comments can be made via the following link <https://forms.gle/JtXgFFdtkLorHwo78> which will be available until **31st January 2022**. Staff consultation has been arranged separately. Comments and questions about the proposals will be considered by our governing board and the Stour Federation Board of Trustees before a final decision is made.

We hope you agree that this is an exciting time for our school and thank you in advance for your participation in the consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Judith Price
Chair of Governors

Margaret Pollard
Headteacher