



Thursday 23rd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Multi Academy Trust update

We are writing to inform parents and carers that in a recent meeting, our Full Governing Board made the decision that we should approach the Department of Education about joining The Athelstan Trust – a successful local Multi Academy Trust (MAT) with schools in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. There is more work to do to progress this, but if we do join this is likely to be in 2027. The key reasons for this decision are listed below:

- School site and infrastructure improvement, via the funding available in a Multi Academy Trust
- School development and improvement as part of a formal network of collaboration
- Mitigation of risk and financial resilience to overcome unforeseen obstacles
- Collaboration whilst retaining our distinct character and autonomy over key decisions
- Expertise in a context of rapid education reform
- Financial efficiencies and economies of scale
- Staff training, development and progression opportunities

We will keep you updated about our progress with this. Thank you to any parents who have responded to surveys we have sent out linked to this, asking for your views. All responses to parent and staff consultations were shared with school governors as part of their decision-making process. For reference, our previous letters to parents about this are linked here:

November 2025 letter: [MAT letter to parents and carers Nov 2025.pdf](#)

June 2026 letter: [MAT consultation letter to parents Jun26.pdf](#)

On behalf of the governing board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support with your child's education this year.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sam Bartholomew
Chair of the Governing Board