



6 October 2017

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Headteacher: **Scott Martin**

Dear Parents or Carers

Re: Long-term future of Adeyfield School

www.adeyfieldschool.org

Over the last 12-18 months the Governing Body has been considering the best way to secure the long-term future of the school with the best possible education for your child. This has encompassed lengthy discussions about the options open to us and what we believe the best way to achieve this goal.

You will know from my letter last year that we face serious financial constraints and that we need to look at ways to reduce our costs whilst maintaining the highest possible standards. The conclusion of the Governing Body is that we should seek to join a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). I would stress at this point that no final decision has been taken. Also, before any final decision is taken you would be fully consulted so that we could take your views into consideration. At present it is entirely our decision as to whether to join a MAT or remain a Foundation School.

We have been fortunate that over the last 18 months we have been working with St Albans Girls' School (STAGS) and they are in the process of forming the ATLAS Academy Trust, which they have invited us to join. I believe that this presents an excellent opportunity for the school to formalise its relationship with St Albans Girls' School and to join a new Trust. All too often Adeyfield School has had to react to situations and this is a chance to secure the long-term future of the school with an outstanding school that strongly believes in collaboration and co-operation, as well as sharing the same educational values and principles.

In making their decision the governors have considered the following benefits of joining a Multi Academy Trust:

- Sharing 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 students at Adeyfield School receive an increasingly outstanding education.
- As an Academy we will have freedoms to procurement service and resources to provide best value to the school – currently we have to purchase all items through the Local Authority, which restricts our ability to be competitive in the open market
- Improved ability to recruit, retain and train teachers, future teachers, leaders and support staff so that teaching quality improves and there is less disruption to learning.
- Sharing resources and so broaden the curricular, extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities that exist for students.
- Improved economies of scale in purchasing which will enable us to target more funds towards students.

I am sure that you will have questions about this proposal. I would reiterate that this is very much in its infancy and that part of the conversion, if it goes ahead, is a full consultation of parents. If you have any initial questions please e-mail them to academy@adeyfieldschool.org by Monday 16 October 2017. Please view the school's website where all questions and responses will be posted.

Yours sincerely

Scott Martin
Headteacher

Look smart. Be polite. Work hard.

