11th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Multi-Academy Trust**

You may be aware that part of the government’s agenda is to ensure that all schools become part of multi-academy trusts by 2030. Whilst this deadline seems a way off and our current political climate is potentially uncertain, the MAT agenda has been building for some time and it is important for the Governors Board at Coleshill Heath School to consider this carefully in the best interests of the future of our school and importantly, for our pupils.

Coleshill Heath School is in a good position and there is no immediate urgency for us to be joining or creating a Multi-Academy Trust. However, following months of research and meeting time, the Board of Governors at Coleshill Heath School have resolved to move towards co-creating a collaborative Multi-Academy Trust with some like-minded local schools. Our priority remains the young people with us here at Coleshill Heath School and we are keen that, in joining with other schools, we add value to and increase our pupils’ educational experiences.

By working with some of our local primary and secondary partners, we would seek to improve transition, learning from colleagues across phases so that we understand more about our children’s educational journeys.

This is a long process and we are currently at the early stages of this journey but it is important that we keep our families updated so that you are aware of the plans and to avoid misunderstanding or misconceptions arising.

What does this mean for your child as a pupil at Coleshill Heath School?

In the short term, very little. If and when we join in partnership with other local schools, our families will be kept fully informed along the way. To dispel any common myths, please be assured of the following:

* There is no intention for the admissions criteria to change for Coleshill Heath School or any other of the schools we are working with. Equally, children leaving Coleshill Heath School will still have a full choice as to their destination school Secondary School.
* There will be no change to uniform or school name and school identity if we form a trust.
* Each school will retain its own local governing board and leadership team. The Multi Academy Trust (MAT) board and members would take on the Local Authority role and would oversee activities and standards across all schools in the MAT as a whole. There will be a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and New Chief Financial Officer (CFO). These roles will have corporate accountability for all MAT operations.

We have discussed at length how this process might work, both in terms of the transition period and the destination upon completion. One aspect we all feel strongly about is that, ideally, upon conversion, pupils, their families and our staff should experience very little difference in the day to day running of our school. This should reassure you that as part of a Multi-Academy Trust, Coleshill Heath School will continue to serve and take its role in community in the same way that it always has done.

I hope that this information is useful to you and we will continue to communicate any further developments with the community, including our young people.

Many thanks for your continued support.



Miss N Fowles

Headteacher