

MAT Consultation

30th September 2025



MERCHANT TAYLORS'
OXFORDSHIRE
ACADEMY TRUST



Welcome

Safety

Introductions



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Agenda

Our Journey – Caroline Ibbotson – Chair of Governors

CGPS – Vania Eaglen - Headteacher

MTOAT – John Marston – CEO MTOAT

Questions



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Our Journey so Far



2023 - HT requests the Governing Body explore academisation.

2024 – Governing Body debate what is best for CGPS

2024 – Governing Body working party meet and discuss partnership with several trusts and choose MTOAT who then offer a shadow year.

2024-2025 – Shadow year is completed, and Governing Body unanimously agree to start due diligence to take the next step.

TODAY – We are starting consultations as part of our due diligence.



Context & Current Status

- Completed a shadow year
- Consulting all stakeholders
- Governors' decision



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Future Focused Perspective

- Sustainability
- Support
- Thriving for future generations



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Why Consider Joining a Trust?

- Not financial
- Sustainability, support, collaboration
- Sharing good practice, ideas, learning
- But.... Whilst keeping our own ethos (including C of E)



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Our Journey So Far

- April 2023: Governors & new Headteacher shared Ofsted & OCC concerns with regard teaching & learning, curriculum, health & safety finances
- Intensive CPD internally & externally
- Difficult restructure
- June 2024 : Ofsted good. Proud & proof of progress!
- We want to remain sustainable & stable. To do that we must look locally beyond our walls.



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Benefits for the Children

- Trust wide opportunities
- Strong, collaborative teaching & learning
- Smooth transition
- Long term future of the school



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Benefits for the Staff

- Collaboration & shared expertise
- CPD & professional growth
- Retain autonomy
- Learn from other schools/professionals
- Local network



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Benefits for the Community

- Stability & reassurance
- CGPS remains CGPS
- Values & ethos remain
- Stronger connections with local schools



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Benefits So Far

- Leadership meetings – collaborative & supportive
- SENDCo network – expertise & support
- Teaching & Learning groups – curriculum initiatives
- Cross-school moderation – consistency & standards
- Trust-wide conferences – training, networking
- Safeguarding support & best practice sharing



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Collaboration

- Developing teaching and learning
- Developing people
- Embracing networks and support



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Partnership

- Sharing resources and people
- Ensuring value for money



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Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust

- MAT of three schools based in Wallingford
- Committed to local community
- Will only expand with the right schools



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What will change

- Trust Board is ultimately accountable
- Partnership is locked in



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What won't change

- School ethos and structures
- Funding



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Questions



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