

FOUR HILLS EDUCATION TRUST

COMING SOON!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS

Frequently Asked Questions

FAQs for Parents/Carers, Children, and Our Community About Joining a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)

We are excited to share information about our school's decision to create a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), a step that will enhance the educational experience for our children while preserving the values and community spirit we hold dear. Below, we've answered your key questions to help you understand what this means for your child and our school.

QUESTION 01

What is a MAT?

A MAT is a group of schools that work together as a single organisation. This allows us to share resources, expertise, and best practices, ultimately providing a better education for all our children.

QUESTION 02

Why are we joining a MAT?

Our primary goal is to provide the best possible education for your children. Joining a MAT will:

- **Enhance Educational Quality:** By working with other schools, we can share innovative teaching methods and resources, leading to improved learning outcomes.
- **Increase Resources:** Direct government funding and shared resources within the MAT will allow us to invest more in our school, including updated technology, improved facilities, and additional support for children.
- **Ensure Stronger Support for Children:** The MAT will provide a network of experienced educators and support staff, ensuring that every child receives the individual attention they need to thrive.
- **Create More Opportunities:** Children will benefit from increased opportunities for collaboration and enrichment activities.



QUESTION 03

What will this mean for your child?

- **Continued High-Quality Education:** Our commitment to providing an excellent education remains our top priority. The MAT will strengthen our ability to deliver this.
- **No Change to School Identity, Name or Uniform:** Your child's school's identity, name and uniform will remain the same.
- **No Change to Admissions Policy:** Our admissions policy will remain unchanged, ensuring fairness and inclusivity.
- **No Change to Day-to-Day School Life:** Your child's daily routine, teachers, and school environment will remain familiar.
- **Increased Opportunities:** Your child will benefit from a wider range of educational opportunities and support.
- **Continued Focus on Individual Needs:** We will continue to prioritise the individual needs of each child, ensuring they receive the support they need to succeed.

QUESTION 04

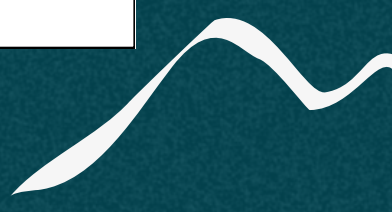
Will staff change as a result of joining the MAT?

No, there are no plans to change our teaching or support staff. Joining the MAT will provide our current staff with access to additional training and professional development opportunities, which will enhance their skills and benefit your children.

QUESTION 05

Will there be any new costs for parents?

No, joining the MAT will not introduce any additional costs for parents. The funding model ensures that all resources and improvements are covered through government funding and MAT-shared resources, not through fees or contributions from families.



QUESTION 06

Will our school become a business?

No, academies are charities, and all funding is reinvested in the school.

QUESTION 07

Will the school still follow the National Curriculum?

Yes, we will continue to follow the National Curriculum, ensuring consistency and high standards in your child's education.

QUESTION 08

Will the school still work with the local community?

Absolutely! We value our strong community ties and will continue to work closely with local organisations.

QUESTION 09

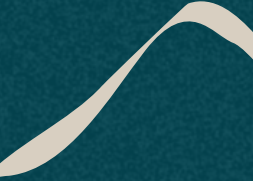
Will my child have to move to another school?

No, your child will remain in their current school.

QUESTION 10

Will term dates change?

No, current term date arrangements will continue.



QUESTION 11

Will pupil transport be affected?

No, current pupil transport arrangements will continue.

QUESTION 12

Will there be any change to Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) support?

No, SEND support will continue and potentially be enhanced through the MAT's network of resources and expertise.

QUESTION 13

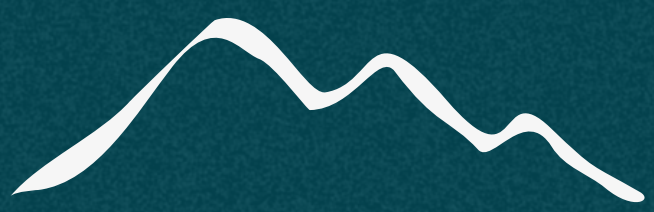
How will the MAT support my child's wellbeing and mental health?

The MAT will provide access to a wider network of expertise, including specialists in mental health and wellbeing. This means we can enhance our existing support systems, offering more resources and programs to ensure your child's emotional and social needs are met.

QUESTION 14

Will my child interact with children from other schools in the MAT?

While day-to-day school life will remain the same, joining a MAT opens up opportunities for collaboration. This could include joint events, competitions, or enrichment activities where your child might connect with peers from other MAT schools, broadening their experiences.





QUESTION 15

Will parents still have a say in how the school is run?

Yes, absolutely. Our school will continue to have our own local governing body, which includes parent representatives, will continue to play a vital role in shaping the direction of our school. Additionally, we will actively seek your feedback through meetings, surveys, and other opportunities to ensure your voice is heard.

QUESTION 16

What happens if the MAT decides to make changes in the future?

Any significant changes would be carefully considered by the MAT board of trustees and our local governing body, with input from parents and staff. We are committed to keeping you informed and involved in any decisions that could impact your child's education or school experience.

QUESTION 17


How does the MAT choose which schools to work with?

The MAT selects schools based on shared values, a commitment to excellence in education, and a desire to collaborate for the benefit of all children. Our school was chosen because of our strong community and dedication to pupil success, aligning with the MAT's vision.

QUESTION 18

How will joining a MAT affect school funding?

By joining a MAT, we will receive funding directly from the government rather than through the local authority. This, combined with shared resources across the MAT, will give us greater flexibility to allocate funds where they are most needed, such as improving facilities or supporting pupil programs.





QUESTION 19

How will we know if joining the MAT is successful?


We will measure success through ongoing improvements in teaching quality, pupil outcomes, and overall school experience. Regular updates will be shared with parents/carers, and Ofsted inspections will continue to provide an independent assessment of our progress.

QUESTION 20

What if I have concerns about the MAT transition?

We're here to support you. You can reach out to our school leadership team at any time with questions or concerns. We'll also be hosting regular information sessions and providing updates to ensure you feel confident about this transition

Governance and Accountability:

- The MAT will be overseen by a board of trustees, ensuring strong governance and financial accountability.
 - Our school will also have its own local governing body, including parent representatives, to ensure that local needs are met.
 - We will continue to be inspected by Ofsted, ensuring high standards of education and care.
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Your Voice Matters:

We value your input and are committed to keeping you informed throughout this process. We will be posting a video on the website for you to view with FAQs from our school Headteacher, offering further insights and addressing any questions you may have. We believe that joining a MAT will create a stronger and more vibrant learning environment for our children, ensuring they have the best possible start in life. We are excited about the opportunities this will bring and look forward to working with you to build a brighter future for our school.

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*'Together, we climb: overcoming challenges
and reaching extraordinary heights.'*

