









11th March 2019

# **Chiltern Educational Trust**

Dear All,

We are delighted to announce that the Department for Education has approved our five schools forming a Multi Academy Trust (MAT). Academy Orders have been granted for Ashlyns School, Bridgewater Primary School, Greenway Primary and Nursery School, Swing Gate Infant School and Nursery and Westfield Primary School and Nursery. This is an exciting partnership to strengthen, for the long term, the already high-quality education provided for children and young people across Berkhamsted.

### **Update**

Since we last wrote to you, we have been keenly monitoring the political landscape and keeping in close touch with the Department for Education. Both the MAT Working Group and the Governing Bodies of the five schools have updated their rigorous due diligence. We are confident that this thorough process will deliver a strong and united "one trust" model across all the schools under the leadership of a dedicated Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

#### **Practicalities**

We have adopted a new name for our MAT - Chiltern Educational Trust. Whilst the Trust will have its own website and identity, the names of each of the five schools will remain the same. Teaching staff, pupils and parents will see no practical difference in the day-to-day running of their schools. The five schools' uniform, logos, website etc will not change.

We wish to reassure you all, but particularly staff and parents at Swing Gate, that we will continue to work in close collaboration with our faith school neighbours within the town and with all other schools within the locality.

#### The CEO

The recruitment process for the CEO of the Chiltern Educational Trust is now underway. The CEO will focus on the delivery of educational excellence for the Trust's children and young people. Our goal is for the Trust to become a nationally recognised high performing MAT. The CEO position is a vital role in order to ensure that our children, young people and staff derive maximum benefit from the Trust and secure the best possible outcomes. We look forward to updating you with news on the recruitment process in due course.

### **Our Members and Trustees**

Our Members Designate and Trustees Designate are volunteers who have been recruited based on careful consideration of the skills that the Trust will require.

Some Members Designate and Trustees Designate have been drawn from the existing Governing Bodies of the five schools. Others are independent people, not previously involved in governance at any of the five schools, whom we have been delighted to welcome in order to complement and strengthen the existing skill sets.











Trustees Designate will relinquish their roles on Governing Bodies at conversion and Governing Bodies have been succession planning with that in mind. You can find out more about the Members Designate and Trustees Designate from the biographies enclosed with this letter.

# **Next steps**

The Chiltern Educational Trust will be formed in the Autumn Term 2019 and we look forward to writing to you again during the Summer Term with an update on developments.

Yours sincerely,

Katharine Ellwood and Elizabeth O'Reilly

Headteacher and Chair of Governors