

The Federated Schools of  
Wood Street Infant School  
&  
Worplesdon Primary School



Proposal for our federation to join a  
Multi Academy Trust

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## Introduction

It is the belief of the Full Governing Body of the Federation of Wood Street Infant School & Worplesdon Primary School (WWFS) that joining a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) will enhance our educational provision and community services. This document outlines our rationale for joining a MAT, the benefits we anticipate, and the unique contributions WWFS can bring to the MAT.

## Rationale for Joining a MAT

Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School have always enjoyed the benefits of working collaboratively with each other, with schools within Surrey and beyond. Over the last ten years, we have seen a significant increase in the number of Surrey schools moving into MAT's and we now believe that the time is right for WWFS to join a MAT. At WWFS, we are committed to ensuring that our pupils receive the highest quality education and that our school continues to thrive in an ever-changing educational landscape. Our vision is to inspire a love for learning and life and we achieve this by: building resilience, inspiring curiosity, developing a balance of independence and teamwork, and instilling empathy. Joining a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) presents a strategic opportunity to enhance our capabilities, achieve our educational objectives and ensure sustainability in the face of educational policy changes and funding challenges, whilst protecting our Values-Based Education.

## Benefits for joining a MAT

- 1. Enhanced Educational Opportunities**
  - Access to a wider range of educational resources and specialist support.
  - Opportunities for collaborative professional development for our staff.
- 2. Improved Student Outcomes**
  - Shared best practices and interventions proven to enhance student performance across schools.
  - Consistent and high-quality educational standards.
- 3. Financial Stability and Efficiency**
  - Economies of scale resulting in cost savings.
  - Centralised services allowing more focused use of resources.
- 4. Increased Support and Expertise**
  - Access to a network of experienced educational leaders.
  - Strengthened governance and accountability structures.

## Contributions WWFS can bring to a MAT

- 1. Strong Community Engagement**
  - Established relationships with local stakeholders and community groups.
  - Proven track record of parental involvement and support.
- 2. Innovative Educational Practices**
  - Successful implementation of creative and effective teaching strategies.
  - A culture of continuous improvement and innovation.
- 3. Committed and Skilled Staff**
  - A team of dedicated professionals committed to student success.
  - Expertise in delivering high-quality education tailored to pupil needs.
  - Strong leadership skills across the federation.
  - Commitment to supporting other schools through moderation and mentoring.
- 4. Diverse Pupil Population**
  - Insights and experiences from a diverse student body.

- Opportunity to share successful strategies for inclusive education.
- Successful integration of a High COIN and the pupils it serves.

## Process in selecting a MAT

The Full Governing Body (FGB) reviewed the local trusts within a 20 mile radius and shortlisted the trusts based on:

- Size of MAT
- Good reputation with longevity
- A trust which prioritises accelerated progress and outstanding outcomes for all pupils (including SEND)
- Ensuring a secure financial future for the Federation.

This led to a shortlist of 4 MAT's. The FGB instructed a working group of governors including the Executive Head Teacher and Co-chair of Governors to carry out due diligence on the shortlist. The due diligence process included meeting with the CEO, deputy CEO's (where applicable), trustees, governors, staff within the trust and visits to schools within each trust. The working group presented their findings to the FGB, recommending that two out of the four MAT's would be good matches for WWFS.

Further due diligence led to the working group recommending South Farnham Educational Trust.

## Reasons for selecting South Farnham Educational Trust

- Academic standards
- Teaching School including the high quality of training teachers & leaders
- Rigour in provision, high expectations
- A Governor would be on the Trust board
- Financial stability is secure
- Over recruitment of staff for the MAT to support schools within the trust
- Small but well managed trust
- Curriculum - early adopters & innovators
- Visionary – keen to know our dreams and aspirations, and support them come to fruition
- Local enough for effective collaboration

## Consultation Process

We invite feedback and questions from our stakeholders, including parents, staff, and the wider community. The consultation period will run from 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025. During this time, we will hold meetings and provide opportunities for you to share your views.

### How to Provide Feedback

- **Attend a Consultation Meeting:** Dates & times to be confirmed.
- **Submit Written Feedback:** Email us at [dphilpot@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dphilpot@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk) or [kglossop@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:kglossop@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk)
- **Online Survey:** Complete our online survey.

## Conclusion

Joining a MAT represents a strategic opportunity for the Federation of Wood Street Infant School & Worplesdon Primary School to enhance our educational offerings and secure a bright future for our pupils. We value your input and look forward to your contributions to this important decision-making process.