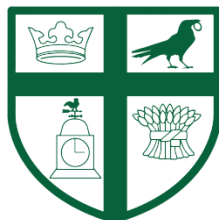


Academy Conversion Consultation

St. Oswald's CofE Aided Primary School

Parents/ Carers Consultation

15th June 2022



St. Oswald's
C.E. Aided Primary School



Vision Statement



St. Oswald's
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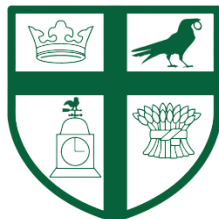


Safe in your hands Lord, we love, laugh, learn

“Love your neighbour as yourself”

(Luke 10:27)

RESPECT • HONESTY • LOVE • FORGIVENESS • PERSEVERANCE • KINDNESS • SELFLESSNESS • PATIENCE

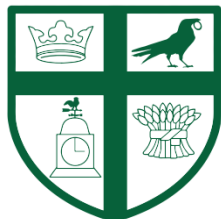


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Introduction - Agenda

- ▶ **Welcome & Introductions**
- ▶ **What is an academy?**
- ▶ **Reasons for considering to convert to academy status**
- ▶ **Why Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT)?**

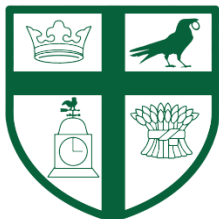


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What is an academy?

- ▶ Academies receive funding directly from the government and are run by an Academy Trust.
- ▶ Academies have more autonomy over how they do things.
- ▶ Academies are inspected by Ofsted.
- ▶ Academy Trusts are not-for-profit companies. They employ the staff and have trustees who are responsible for the performance of the academies in the trust.
- ▶ Conversion usually takes around 6 months.

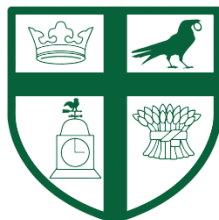


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Reasons we are considering academy status

- ▶ As CDAT is an organisation which will link us to similar schools and broaden the range of experience on which we rely. We believe this will enhance the educational opportunities for each and every pupil, which is what our school is here to do.
- ▶ The influence, impact and support from the local authority has been systematically reduced over a number of years now. Realistically it offers us very little these days. Local Authority funding for supporting school improvement has now ceased.
- ▶ Opportunities to work with new partner schools and strengthen those links already established with partner schools.

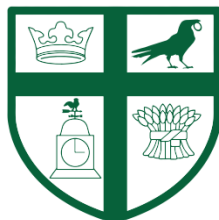


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Why convert now?

- ▶ The Government vision is for all schools to join multi academy trusts by 2030.
- ▶ By converting now we can do so making our own free choices and without any governmental pressure
- ▶ By joining CDAT now when it is still relatively early in it's journey we have the opportunity to be part of shaping the MAT.

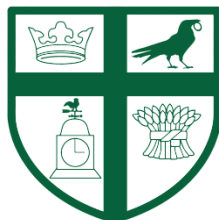


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Why Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT)?

- ▶ It is the DBE's first preference for its Church schools.
- ▶ CDAT is a string MAT with 11 academies and is growing.
- ▶ It is the diocesan MAT and as a school we have developed very close links and a good working relationship with the diocese already.
- ▶ Diocesan MATs are fully supported by the Church of England.
- ▶ It is a MAT on majority papers, set up to protect and further enhance the context, ethos, culture and distinctiveness of Church of England schools within the Diocese of Chester.
- ▶ Its vision, values and aims are rooted in the Church of England's Vision for Education and are closely aligned with our own.

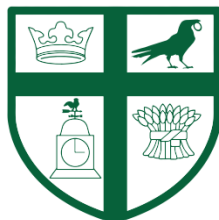


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Why Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT)?

- ▶ CDAT allows us a high level of autonomy unlike other MATs. We can keep our own policies, curriculum and procedures. Basically decisions can still be made fully in the interests of St Oswald's.
- ▶ Joining CDAT will allow us opportunities whilst also protecting the fabric and ethos of the school which makes us unique.
- ▶ Whilst we can develop new partnerships with schools inside CDAT we can also maintain current partnerships with church and community schools outside CDAT.

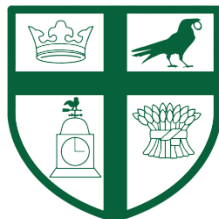


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What will stay the same?

- ▶ No changes to:
 - ▶ The school name
 - ▶ The school day
 - ▶ Curriculum
 - ▶ Uniform
 - ▶ The LGB will continue to provide support and challenge

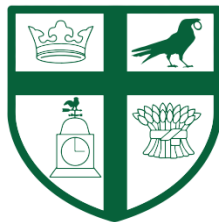


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The Proposal

Proposal is for St. Oswald's CofE Aided Primary School to convert to academy status and join Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT) on 1st March 2023



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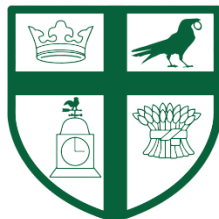
CDAT's Vision

Rooted in Christian values, CDAT is committed to:

- Valuing the uniqueness of every child
- Aspiring to excellence
- Being a nurturing learning community for all

Jesus said, 'I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

As a Trust, our aim is to ensure that all of our pupils are able to benefit from and enjoy 'life in all its fullness.'

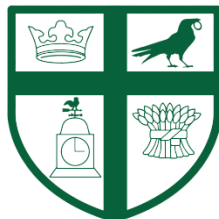


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CDAT “Musts”

- ▶ Christian Ethos
- ▶ Collaboration, not Isolation
- ▶ Quality of Education – “stick of rock”
 - ▶ High expectations
 - ▶ Investment in staff development
 - ▶ Train, recruit & retain great staff
 - ▶ Sharing best practice



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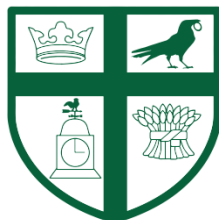


CDAT's Approach

CDAT doesn't take a corporate approach with its schools – we don't look to change school names/uniforms/badges, nor do we have a 'CDAT curriculum' that we expect all schools to follow, or insist on all schools using the same 'schemes' for maths, phonics and the like.

We recognise that our schools are very different – each serving its own community – and that a 'one size fits all' approach wouldn't work: our aim is to help each school be the very best version of itself that it can be.

Across the Trust there is an enormous amount of expertise and excellent practice. We see the Trust as a thriving learning community where staff and schools work together to help each other to continually improve.



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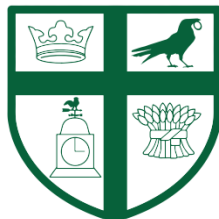


CDAT Family

While our schools all have their own unique identity, they are also all part of the CDAT family of schools. All are church schools within Chester Diocese.

Currently 11 schools – with 5 more at the consultation or formal application stage. Our 11 current schools are in Cheshire, Stockport/Tameside and the Wirral.

Central Team based at Church House in Daresbury but most often seen visiting schools.



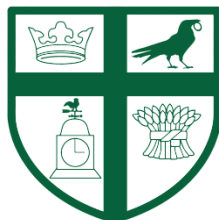
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CDAT
Chester Diocesan Academies Trust

Timeline of activity

- ▶ Formal consultation 23rd May 2022 to 27th June 2022
- ▶ Consultation report and findings – June 2022
- ▶ Governors to make a decision on whether to proceed
- ▶ Proposed opening date of conversion and joining CDAT – 1st March 2023
- ▶ Regular communication with staff / parents / carers / pupils / community

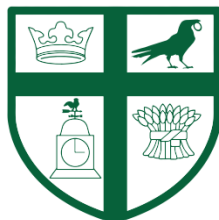


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Any thoughts or questions?

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Website: <http://www.stoswalds.com/>



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