



'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

Friday 4th October 2024

Dear Parent and Carers

Re: The Rural Church Schools Academy Trust (RCSAT) Proposed Changes for Spring 2025

As you will be aware we are currently under consultation with all parents across the trust, regarding the future changes to the Rural Schools Academy Trust. To create more opportunities and to safeguard the future of the trust financially, we are proposing that **RCSAT merges into the Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT) to become part of a larger school trust**. We do not foresee this will impact on the day to day running of the schools but will change the overall trust-level strategic leadership (Director/CEO level) of the 3 schools. We envisage this will be a positive move for the three schools, giving more support and opportunities to work with a larger group of primary schools in the Cheshire area.

The directors, chair of governors and executive leadership team, have evaluated the larger local trusts in Cheshire and after discussions with the CEO and Diocesan board have decided that the Chester Diocesan Academy Trust (CDAT) is the natural choice for us to join, as a trust with similar Christian values, approach and ethos. CDAT are a primary focussed trust and currently have 17 church primary schools in Cheshire. Being part of this CDAT, rather than RCSAT, would not impact on the day to day running of the three schools, but would provide enhanced financial, operational and support services for our three schools. For further information on who CDAT are and which schools are currently in their trust please see their website

<https://www.cdat.co.uk/our-schools.html>

Next steps:

There are 3 meetings planned across the trust on the following dates. Neil Dixon CEO for CDAT will be present at each of the meetings and there will be opportunity to ask answer questions regarding the merger.

We appreciate that evenings are busy times for parents and so you are more than welcome to attend any of the 3 meetings planned across the trust in the forthcoming weeks.

Wednesday 9th October 6pm at St Oswalds Worleston CE Primary
Thursday 17th October 6pm at Warmingham CE Primary
Monday 21st October 6pm at Bunbury CE Primary and Nursery School

The merging of the trusts we see as a real benefit to all our schools, creating a wider trust community and giving more support to our staff and schools.

Thank you for your continued support

Kind regards

Nic Badger
Executive Headteacher for Rural Church Schools Academy Trust.



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