

Academy Consultation

Orrets Meadow School

Consultation

11th December 2024



Oak Trees
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

MISSION STATEMENT

To raise the aspirations of every child and give them the confidence to fulfil their potential through positive learning experiences.



- ▶ **Welcome & Introductions**
- ▶ **What is an academy?**
- ▶ **Reasons for considering to convert to academy status**
- ▶ **Why Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust?**



What is an academy? - CD

- ▶ Academies are schools which are run by the Trust Board and Central Team rather than the LA
- ▶ Sponsored and Convertors – two ways to join a Multi Academy Trust
- ▶ Academies are inspected by Ofsted



Reasons we are considering academy status - CD

- ▶ Primary reason is to ensure that we achieve the best possible outcomes for the children of Orrets Meadow School
- ▶ To provide support and challenge for the headteacher and all of our school leaders and develop the highest quality teaching and learning within our school
- ▶ LAs are finding it increasingly hard to provide bespoke support for schools in the current economic climate
- ▶ Joining a MAT will mean greater opportunities to collaborate with other schools and opportunities to learn/improve from each other
- ▶ Pupils will benefit from increased opportunities for collaborative projects, shared expertise, tournaments, events etc



Reasons we are considering academy status - CD

- ▶ To develop the expertise of all staff to further improve effectiveness and outcomes for children
- ▶ Provide economic benefits through centralised services and economies of scale
- ▶ Academies can access SCA funding which can be utilised towards building work or improvements to school grounds, etc
- ▶ Additional support for finance, H&S, HR, facilities management and project management will become available, meaning that leadership can prioritise teaching and learning which will impact on standards of teaching and learning



Why convert now? - CD

- ▶ Converting now will ensure that our school leaders have the support that they need and the opportunities to share best practice
- ▶ This is an opportunity to join a group of like-minded Wirral schools and will enable us to work with established, highly experienced Wirral colleagues whom we trust
- ▶ Converting now will mean that we have a choice over the MAT we join. If we wait to make a decision we will have less choice over which MAT we go to as they will inevitably reach capacity.



Why Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust? - CD

- ▶ The Oak Trees MAT values, ethos and community minded approach aligns with our school
- ▶ The Oak Trees MAT is a Wirral based established MAT with a proven track record of success
- ▶ Travel time to meetings will be kept to a minimum as all schools are based in Wirral – support is never far away if needed
- ▶ The Oak Trees MAT offers increased opportunities for high quality CPD, really focussed on up to date and relevant school improvement. Eg. Regular subject leader meetings.
- ▶ We will **remain** Orrets Meadow School. Joining the Oak Trees MAT will **not** change our curriculum, ethos, uniform, staffing or provision. Joining the Oak Trees MAT will enable us to refine and improve what we already have at our school. The Oak Trees MAT will allow us to retain our autonomy. Outreach service will continue to be managed and run by Orrets as it is now – there will be no changes to it.
- ▶ The Oak Trees MAT will give us access to a greater variety of events, CPD, funding revenues and speakers, which we cannot do on our own.
- ▶ Our school governing board will continue to provide support and challenge as it does now.



Proposal is for Orrets Meadow School to convert to academy status and join Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust on 1st September 2025



MAT Aims and Values - Achieving Excellence Together - TL

We build the Oak Trees character through our character gateways

Collaboration



Achieving through actively playing my part and supporting each other to find solutions.

Expression



Having the confidence to present myself freely and honestly. To be receptive to the thoughts and ideas of others.

Citizenship



Making a difference to my home, school, community and wider world through showing compassion curiosity and drive.

Inspiration



Being a positive role model by acting with kindness, honesty and resilience in order to motivate myself and encourage others.

Outcomes

Healthy Thinkers

Caring Citizens

Successful Learners

Knowledgeable Participants

Confident Individuals

Curious Explorers



Oak Trees

MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

MAT Events - TL



↻ Oak Trees MAT reposted

WG **Wirral Globe** @WIRRALGLOBENEWS · Jan 5
Wirral Trust raises £2k for charity following Christmas Karaoke event



From wirralglobe.co.uk



Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust Schools - TL

Schools:

- ▶ Poulton Lancelyn Primary School
- ▶ Church Drive Primary School
- ▶ Egremont Primary School
- ▶ Brackenwood Junior School
- ▶ Stanton Road Primary School
- ▶ Great Meols Primary School
- ▶ Greasby Junior School
- ▶ Thingwall Primary School
- ▶ Heswall Primary School
- ▶ Irby Primary School
- ▶ Black Horse Hill Junior School
- ▶ Hilbre High School



Oak Trees
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

What do We Stand For As a Trust? - TL

- ▶ We provide significant financial, operational and facilities support, including economies of scale and ensuring that your facilities continue to improve
- ▶ We share the wealth of experience and expertise from across our trust to enrich and bring learning to life for our children
- ▶ We work together to help our schools to improve – adding the capacity that the Local Authority haven't got and providing a strong network for schools and school leaders
- ▶ We are a local Trust – this enables us to have local joint events, sports matches, competitions – e.g. MAT song day and show, sports days – we will ensure your children will be part of this
- ▶ Every member of staff in our trust genuinely cares about the achievement, development, well-being, and future of **all** of our children – we are a team!



What do We Stand For As a Trust? - TL

- ▶ We believe that all schools should have their own leadership team and Headteacher and a strong Governing Body
- ▶ School leaders continue to make their own decisions for their own schools and community – MAT leaders are there to help, support and facilitate but it is up to the school how they run on a day to day basis – it is your school!
- ▶ We listen to the school community and use that feedback to improve – parents, pupils, staff, Governors
- ▶ Training – access to key trainers in many areas
- ▶ Support – access to expertise from other leaders, curriculum leaders etc.
- ▶ The Trust by Sep 25 will have 7 SEND bases across our primary and secondary schools so clearly excellent opportunities to collaborate



Key Things To Know – TL

- ▶ Wirral Trust
- ▶ School is accountable to the Orrets families - and all Local Governing Bodies have parent representation on them as before
- ▶ Team – collaboration and relationships are the key!
- ▶ Everything we do is with integrity and through listening to each community
- ▶ Strong performance and feedback
- ▶ Orrets Meadow School will remain as before – we value the community and the distinctiveness of each school, and this is part of the Trust ethos. Last thing we would do is enforce change, key is we work together and provide a strong support network of collaboration and support.
- ▶ Key is we will adapt to ensure that we give you everything you need to continue to thrive and will fully integrate Orrets into our family of schools



Staff - TL

- ▶ Staff transferred under TUPE Regulations retain their existing terms and conditions – same as Wirral
- ▶ Formal TUPE consultation and liaison with Trade Unions
- ▶ TUPE consultation should be sufficient time to be thorough but no prescribed length of time. The Local Authority as the existing employer will manage TUPE consultation and process
- ▶ A TUPE transfer will not break service or continuous employment
- ▶ Due Diligence
- ▶ Pensions continue as they are now, continuous service etc.



Next steps - TL

- ▶ Formal consultation 29th November – 20th December 2024 at 12pm.
- ▶ Survey Monkey will be available on the school website from tomorrow morning to share your views on joining the MAT.
- ▶ We will collate all feedback into a final consultation report which will be made available on the school website
- ▶ Proposed opening date of conversion and joining Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust – 1st September 2025
- ▶ Regular communication with staff and parents/ carers



Any thoughts or questions?

Email: consultation@orretsmeadow.wirral.sch.uk

Website: <https://orrets-meadow.eschools.co.uk/website>

