



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
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4 February 2022

Dear Parent/carers,

As you are aware, the Governing Board of Gayton Primary School have been investigating the possibility of joining Cheshire Academies Trust (CAT), a multi academy trust (MAT). After careful consideration of the consultation feedback from parents, staff and stakeholders and after undertaking due diligence, we are delighted to be able to inform you that the Governing Board has voted unanimously to proceed with the conversion.

It is the opinion of the Governing Board of Gayton Primary School that converting to academy status and joining Cheshire Academies Trust is in the best interests of all in the Gayton Primary School community and especially for the pupils and their education.

Cheshire Academies Trust has an ethos closely aligned to our own. It is a values driven trust that believes in integrity and leading by example. Like Gayton Primary School, the trust makes decisions with sensitivity and thoughtfulness based on the best interests of pupils, teachers and communities. For us the relationships between staff and pupils is a real strength and is the most important factor leading to children making progress. As part of the Cheshire Academies Trust we will continue to foster these strong relationships and have the opportunity to learn from each other through trust collaboration.

We will therefore begin the application with the Department for Education immediately as we need approval to convert. We hope that we will be in a position to convert by 1 June 2022; however, this is dependent upon the speed at which the DfE and Wirral Local Authority can work.

In the meantime, here are some reminders of some of the key facts around conversion to academy status:

- There are no plans to change how the school functions on a day-to-day basis, and there are no plans to change the pattern of holidays.

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

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- Our provision and ethos will remain the same.
- All staff currently employed by Gayton Primary School would become employees of the Cheshire Academies Trust. The employment rights of all members of staff would be protected by TUPE, Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 as amended by The Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 2014. This means that these employment rights would transfer to the Trust under the same terms and conditions of employment. Pension rights and continuity of service record would be preserved.
- The Governing Board will be reconstituted as a Local Governing Board of the Trust, and retain all existing earned autonomy to be accountable for the school and its running.

<https://www.gov.uk/become-an-academy-information-for-schools>

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Cowan, Lisa Mann & Mrs. McAleny

Co-Chairs of Governors & Headteacher
Gayton Primary School

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