



## MEREVALLEY FEDERATION

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**Executive Headteacher: Mrs Hayley White**  
**Chair of Governing Board: Mrs Rebecca Cosgrove**

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Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### **Consultation - Proposed Academy Conversion and joining 5 Dimensions Trust MAT**

**Dear Parents and Carers and all stakeholders,**

We are writing to make you aware that the Governing Board of Merebrook and Emerson Valley Schools are consulting with stakeholders regarding a proposal to convert from being Local Authority Maintained Schools to becoming Academies. As with all key decisions, our Governors are committed to putting the best interests of our children, our staff and the wider community at the centre of the process. We are therefore keen to involve you, as a valued partners, in the consultation process that will take place from Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

At this stage, we felt it would be helpful to provide you with some initial information regarding how the Governing Board have come to a point where they wish to consult on this significant change.

#### **Why Join a MAT?**

The leadership team at Merebrook and Emerson Valley Schools, alongside the Governing Board, have been focused on finding ways to strengthen the future of our schools. Over recent months, the Governors and senior leaders have completed significant work around understanding Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) and what joining a MAT could mean for our schools, as well as investigating several local, existing Trusts to find one that is most aligned with the vision and values of the schools and one which would benefit our young people and wider school community.

Becoming an Academy and being part of a Multi-Academy Trust is akin to being part of a wider, larger family. Not only does this bring potential financial benefits and economies of scale, but it also presents incredible opportunities for school improvement through collaboration, shared resources and innovation.

#### **Who are the 5 Dimensions Trust?**

The 5 Dimensions Trust was established in 2018 and is an existing Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) consisting of 3 local high-performing schools – The Hazeley Academy, Shenley Brook End School and Priors Rise School - serving the community of west Milton Keynes and beyond.

Further information about the Trust can be found here: <https://www.5dimensionstrust.com>

In addition, a document of 'Frequently Asked Questions' can be found on our school, but is also being sent with this letter. This document aims to pre-empt frequent questions that people may have around the process. This will be updated across the consultation period, as new questions arise, and will be available on our website throughout this time.

**Community ~ Pride ~ Aspire**

Should you wish to make a comment, share your view (either one of support or caution) or ask a direct question, please complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/wY623YHijL>

If appropriate, your question may be added to the FAQs document, or a member of the team will respond to you directly in due course.

May we take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your time and attention in relation to this incredibly important and significant matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Hayley White  
**Executive Headteacher**



Mrs Rebecca Cosgrove  
**Chair of Governing Board**