

## Consultation on Plym Academy Trust merging with Westcountry Schools Trust

### What is being proposed?

Our existing Multi Academy Trust (MAT), Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST) comprises a family of Primary and Secondary schools that are geographically close to each other in our part of the south west. Many of our primary school children transition to secondary education in a WeST school.

Plym Academy Trust (PAT) comprises five very successful primary schools in Plympton. The proposal is for these five schools to join with our existing family of schools in WeST and form a larger group of schools working together across primary and secondary phases of education. Should this proceed we would work collaboratively as one MAT with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

In our region the number of MAT's has stabilised but the sector is seeing existing MAT's grow in size.

### What are the benefits of MAT membership?

There will be numerous benefits including:

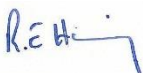
- A culture of aspiration across the family of schools where every child feels safe and happy and has the chance to experience a wide range of opportunities;
- A better shared understanding of both primary and secondary phases, which will improve transition and potentially accelerate children's progress;
- Better opportunities to share best practice and professional development programmes, adding real value to the education of all children;
- Further develop teaching and learning practices across all schools;
- Efficiencies in administrative functions and joint procurement; this will help participating schools in these more austere times to advantage our children;
- Governance with a clear focus on strategic development, teaching and learning, and accountability;
- Recruitment, retention and professional growth of staff;
- Greater financial stability; and
- Shared responsibility for all the schools within the MAT.

For further information I am pleased to share a letter that has been recently distributed to parents and carers of children within the existing Plym Academy Trust Schools.

### How can I make my views known?

You are invited to submit your comments and views using the following e-mail:  
[admin@westst.org.uk](mailto:admin@westst.org.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Rob Haring**  
CEO

**STRONGER TOGETHER... EVERY CHILD IN A GREAT SCHOOL**