



**MATTHEW MOSS
HIGH SCHOOL**
Learning for Life

Academy and Multi Academy Trust Consultation

Consultation on plans for Matthew Moss High School to convert to an academy and to join the Watergrove Trust

Matthew Moss High School is an excellent school and only this week it has been reported that our school is one of the three highest-performing schools in Rochdale. We are determined that our impressive improvement journey will continue and as part of this process, we have been carefully exploring the options of converting to an academy and joining a Multi-Academy Trust. The Governing Body have now resolved that Matthew Moss High School should become an academy and join the Watergrove Trust, formerly Wardle Academy Trust. As part of this process, we are now consulting with all stakeholders to gather their views.

Academies and Trusts are independent of Local Authority control, which means that they have more freedom in how they operate. They receive their finances directly from central government rather than the Local Authority and are also directly liable for matters including insurance, health and safety, pensions, and property maintenance.

The Governors of Matthew Moss High School have been mindful of the following principles in determining their academy and Multi-Academy Trust proposals:

- The distinctive ethos, values and culture of Matthew Moss High School should be maintained.
- Conversion to an academy and joining a Trust should lead to improved outcomes and opportunities for learners.
- Matthew Moss High School should retain a Local Governing Board (LGB.)
- Matthew Moss High School should be able to make a significant contribution to the Trust and its partner schools, as well as gaining from the collaboration.

The Watergrove Trust is made up of both secondary and primary schools from across our local area. The vision of Watergrove Trust is to provide dynamic and innovative learning communities within Greater Manchester and Yorkshire that are committed to achievement and empower their students to be the best they can be. The Trust believes that successful schools can take many shapes and face different challenges, but at their centre are motivated students, knowledgeable and skilled with a propensity to want to learn more. The Watergrove Trust's aim is to equip those learners with the tools that will enable them to

make the right choices; to motivate them to want to keep learning for a lifetime and give them the capability to lead and support others to do the same.

The member schools of the Watergrove Trust are currently:

- St Andrew's C.E Primary School and Nursery
- St James' C of E Primary School
- Kentmere Academy
- Wardle Academy

A significant benefit of the partnership will be the opportunity to share good practice in teaching and learning, which is the key to improving outcomes for learners.

The additional benefits to joining the Watergrove Trust, include the following:

- Working with other strong schools to support each other to improve and provide the very best education for life.
- Better staff recruitment, training, career development and retention
- Opportunities to deliver shared services, such as grounds maintenance and IT
- A commitment to developing leaders and opportunities across the Trust

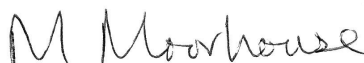
You are invited, as part of this consultation, to share your views on the proposal for Matthew Moss High School to convert to be an academy and join the Watergrove Trust. Your written representation can be via letter delivered to school and marked "Academy Consultation" or by email to consultation@mmhs.co.uk again titled "Academy Consultation". The deadline for representations is Friday 1st March 2019.

In the meantime, if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Yours sincerely



Ian Birchenough Chair of Governors



Mark Moorhouse Headteacher