



1 November 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer

Over the past few years our Trustees have been exploring the Multi Academy Trust (MAT) landscape in response to the DFE's proposed [White Paper](#) which in short had at its heart the ambition that all schools belong to a MAT. We have proudly maintained our Single Academy Trust (SAT) status, whilst securing positive outcomes for our students, delivering a strong educational provision and being as outward facing as possible. Despite this, the reality on the ground is it is becoming harder and harder to operate as a SAT and we risk our students and staff not having the best possible educational experience unless we join a MAT.

The national challenges facing our sector in relation to finance, recruitment, SEND and inclusion are all challenges that are being met more successfully by the MAT sector and our Trustees have been keen to ensure we are not left behind.

Over the past two years there has been extensive research undertaken around what MATs align to our vision, values and beliefs, at both a local and national level. We have been keen to ensure that whoever we join adds value to our community, especially our students whilst retaining our autonomy and unique identity. As you can imagine this has taken considerable time but allowed Trustees to identify four main MATs we wished to explore in greater depth. The MATs selected were LiFE, Lionheart, TMET and Delta, who are all strong and successful Trusts that the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) were also in full support of us exploring further.

Of the four we selected only three were willing to proceed and in those instances we have met with their CEOs and Trust Boards to explore what joining their trust would look like and the benefits it may bring. Alongside this, we have taken both staff and students to schools belonging to these three trusts and invited them into school to present to both our staff and trustees. The due diligence process has been lengthy, detailed and robust and been praised by the Trusts involved and the RSC.

What has become very apparent is that all three Trusts would add value to our community and offer unique opportunities to both our students and staff. There is strong alignment with our vision and values and in that respect any of the three would have been a good choice.

Trustees met recently to take into account all aspects of the due diligence process to reach a final decision around which Trust would be our preferred partner to join and we are pleased to share that it was TMET (The Mead Educational Trust).

We are confident this is the right choice for BGLC and will secure the future of our community into a new and exciting chapter. There will invariably be some changes but we are confident these will only be for the benefit of our students and staff.

There is now a lengthy process that has to be undertaken to formalise our merger with TMET but we will keep you fully informed about any significant updates.

Yours sincerely

Connor Acton  
Chair of Trustees

Karl Stewart  
Vice Chair of Trustees