

Clapham Terrace Community Primary School & Nursery

Caring Achieving Respectful Learners

Clapham Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV31 1HZ

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Headteacher: Mrs Julie Miles

May 1st, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

R.E. The Proposed Academisation of CTPS and membership of the WSF MAT

This letter contains answers to some of the feedback we have received from you, we have also updated the FAQ's on the School Website [here](#).

Please note, the second Consultation Meeting for parents and community is scheduled for **9.00 am on Wednesday 8th May at Clapham Terrace School.**

Unsurprisingly (we know how important she is to the continuing success of the school!) some of you were concerned about *whether Mrs Miles' role would change with the development of the MAT*. I can assure you that the plan is very much for Mrs Miles to remain as Head of Clapham Terrace. There is a 'MAT Director' position within the new structure, but it is proposed that the current Head of Evergreen School would take on this role, initially on a part-time basis. Indeed, far from being a vehicle for Mrs Miles to leave Clapham, we see the development of the MAT and the increase in Leadership and Office support that will come with it as our best chance of securing her as Head of our school for the foreseeable future.

People have also asked *why, given the talk of 'no change' to the day to day at school, and the emphasis on 'Clapham staying as Clapham', are we bothering to go through this process?* Our plan to help develop the WSF MAT is driven by a concern that doing nothing is no longer an option if we want to see Clapham Terrace maintain its unique personality and ethos, and to avoid being forced into joining a MAT that might not suit us in the future. Like all maintained schools, we have experienced rapidly declining levels of support from the local authority which we are concerned will have a severe and ongoing impact on our school. Helping to create and shape the WSF MAT will, we hope, give us control of our own destiny, ensuring that Clapham remains a community focussed, inclusive school. While some of the benefits would become obvious in the opportunities we can give the children and staff, many of the most important changes would happen behind the scenes, and although largely invisible from the perspective of parents and carers, would have an enormous impact on allowing our teachers to continue providing an outstanding education.

Finally, a note on *where we are in the process*. The decision on whether to become an academy will be taken by the governors later this school year. The outline of the proposed



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MAT is with the Department for Education; we should hear back from them later this summer. All four schools are currently undertaking stakeholder consultations and we are looking forward to bringing together the outcomes in a few weeks. In the meantime, the various working groups (composed of a number of representatives from each of the schools and the Foundation in close consultation with experts on the legal and structural aspects) are doing considerable work putting together detailed proposals for the operation of the MAT, in order to make sure it would work in the absolute best interests of all of our schools and communities.

Regards,

The Clapham Terrace Governors

