**Diocese of Worcester Trust Application Form**

**2023-2024**

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| **Worcester Diocesan Board of Education****Information for the Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) about a multi academy trust which is to be joined by a Church of England school/academy. This should be completed by the trust and forms part of the approval process of the DBE.** |
| **1** | **Name of multi academy trust (MAT)** |  |
| **Name of CofE school wishing to join** |  |
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| **2**  | **Names of other schools in this MAT** *(please state age range, current Ofsted grade, and church or non-church school status)* |  |
|  | **Location/s of schools within the MAT** *(nearest large town/s)* |  |
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| **3** | **Number of children educated within the MAT (please indicate total as well as separate academy numbers on role)** |  |
|  | **Number and roles of MAT central staff team** |  |
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| **4** | **Please outline the MAT’s reasons for wishing to take on the church school in question** |
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| **5** | **Please outline the MAT’s vision and values and explain how these are sympathetic with the Church of England’s 2016 vision for education, ‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’** |
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| **6** | **Please outline the MAT’s plans for supporting and promoting the deeply Christian nature of the church school, thereby enabling the school to retain and develop its Christian ethos, vision, and values.** |
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| **7** | **Please outline the MAT’s plans and capacity to provide effective school improvement support and challenge to the new academy. Please include reference to existing demands on the MAT’s resources.**  |
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|  | **MAT Financial Statement**  |
| Annual MAT Budget: |
|  |  | **£ Surplus** | **£ Deficit** |
| a) | Please specify surplus/deficit from last year’s revenue budget |  |  |
| b) | Please specify surplus/deficit from last year’s capital budget |  |  |
| c) | Please indicate if the MAT has run a deficit budget in the last three years  |  |  |
| d) | Please indicate if the trust indicates a deficit budget in the next three years |  |  |
| *If current figures suggest a future deficit please indicate the MAT’s plan to address this:* |
|  | e) | Please indicate if the trust has had any interventions from the DfE/ESFA detailing the circumstances and outcomes. |
| f) | *Please attach a copy of the Trust’s financial plan.* |
| g) | Please outline the growth plan for the Trust |
| *Please attach a copy of the Trust’s growth plan.* |
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| **9** | **Governance structure of the MAT** |
| *a)* | *In order for a Church of England school to join a mixed MAT, the Worcester Diocesan Academies Trust (WDAT) will appoint Members of the Academy Trust who, in turn, will appoint Trustees. The requirements are 25% diocesan representation for a voluntary controlled school to join a MAT and 75% for a voluntary aided school. The Diocesan Director of Education will discuss these arrangements with MAT Members and Trustees and will need to be convinced that the Trust has these governance arrangements in place before DBE consent is granted.*  |
| *b)* | *Proportionally, these Academy Trust Members will be the signatories of the Memorandum and Articles of Association (only applicable if creating a new MAT).*  |
| c) | *The Members of the MAT will be asked to sign a Members’ Agreement with the Worcester DBE and agreement to this is a condition of a church school being granted consent to join the MAT.* |
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| **10** | **Appointment of Governing Body** |
| *a)* | *It is the expectation of WDAT that the constitution of the new academy’s Local Governing Boards (or equivalent) reflects that of the school’s Full Governing Board prior to conversion.* |
| *b)* | *The MAT has ensured that members of the current governing body understand the roles and responsibilities of the LGB post conversion, as set out in the Trust’s Scheme of Delegated Authority.****Please attach the most recent Scheme of Delegated Authority.*** |
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| **11** | **Statement of Awareness** |
| ✓ | *The MAT Members and Trustees confirm that they are aware that (please tick)* |
|  | (a) | any Church of England school in the Trust is to continue to offer an education which is in harmony with the Church’s 2016 vision for education, ‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’ |
|  | (b)  | they agree that the MAT will work closely with the Diocesan Education Team to promote and develop the church school’s deeply Christian ethos, vision, and values through the Diocesan Training and Support Service Level Agreement |
|  | (c) | they must consult with the DBE on admission arrangements for any church school |
|  | (d) | they are giving assurance to the DBE that the Trust has the capacity and expertise to provide appropriate school effectiveness support and challenge to the new academy |
|  | (e) | they are giving assurance to the DBE that the Trust is financially robust and sustainable |
|  | (f) | the DBE requires 25% governance representation if the MAT wishes to take on a VC school, and 75% governance representation in the case of a VA school |
|  | (g) | the DBE requires the Members of the MAT to sign a legally binding Members’ Agreement which sets out the Trust’s commitment to its conditions |
|  | (h) | the DBE requires that the constitution of the new academy’s LGB reflects that of the school’s FGB prior to conversion |
|  | (i) | the DBE expects that the Trust has made clear to the school governors the changes to their roles and responsibilities once the school is part of the Trust. |
|  | (j) | WDAT appointed Trustees will report to WDAT termly. |
|  | (k) | A review of teaching and learning in at least one of the trust’s Church of England schools will be undertaken annually by the Diocesan Education Team |
|  | (l) | The Trust will not change the school’s name or logo without prior consent from the DBE. |
| **Signatures:** |
| **Chair of the Board of Trustees** |  | **Print name:** |
| **Signed:** |  | **Date:** |
| **Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent – please state)** |  | **Print name:** |
| **Signed:** |  | **Date:** |