

25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to announce that Dulwich Hamlet Educational Trust and The Charter Schools Educational Trust are currently in talks about the benefits to the young people of our communities, of a merger into one Multi Academy Trust.

To provide further information on what this means, we are inviting you to attend a meeting on **Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6.45pm** to be held at The Charter School North Dulwich, Red Post Hill. Please note: if you are unable to make that date, we are planning a further meeting in November.

The four schools in the Trusts, The Belham Primary School, The Charter School North Dulwich, The Charter School East Dulwich, and Dulwich Hamlet Junior School, share common values of inclusivity and a core focus on the whole child, significant community engagement, outstanding learning opportunities delivered through outstanding practitioners, a commitment to encouraging creativity and innovation, excellence in resources and premises, and of course great attainment and achievement.

The trustees of all the schools have already spent time getting to know each other and establishing that we are committed to the same future, and we believe this merger would provide an exceptionally powerful collaboration of talent and skills in governance and school leadership, as well as huge opportunities for sharing of great practice amongst teaching staff – ensuring a strong foundation for future developments over the longer term.

The merger will allow the expanded Trust to invite other local schools which share our vision and values, to become part of the new enlarged MAT thus increasing still further a strong and supportive community of learning.

An experienced outward looking and highly skilled board of trustees will set overall strategic direction, ensure schools funds are appropriately spent on pupils, and support the local governing bodies manage their schools effectively – a governance model that ensures each Local Governing Body is working to achieve the very best for their pupils.

We anticipate that there will be financial benefits for all schools within the new Trust: by looking at the services we can share, school to school improvement partnerships, administrative and financial support, or even staff working across more than one school in response to need, the opportunity to maximize school funding in times of funding shrinkage, is clear.

We invite you to hear more from the Head Teachers and Trustees, and ask questions of us, and we look forward to seeing you on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October. To help with numbers we would be grateful if you could indicate your attendance using the EVENTBRITE booking form.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/tcset-and-dhet-15157814129>