



Thursday 12th January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

A proposal for Penketh High School to convert from a Single Academy Trust (SAT) to form a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) called The Challenge Academy Trust (TCAT).

We are consulting with you regarding the Governing Body's proposal to form a multi-academy trust alongside the following institutions: Beamont Collegiate Academy, Great Sankey Primary School, Bridgewater High School, Penketh South Primary School, Priestley Sixth Form College and Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School.

This follows an extensive period of due diligence and discussion by the Governing Bodies of all institutions including meetings with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Department for Education.

Rationale

Penketh High School has always believed in working collaboratively with educational institutions similar in their outlook and vision for the aspirations and outcomes of young people. We are a school that cares very deeply about the students we are privileged to teach.

*The government's white paper **Educational Excellence Everywhere** published last year echoes that ethos, recognising that Multi- Academy Trusts are able in a more formal structure to bring together leadership, autonomy, funding and accountability across a group of schools with a purpose of mutual support.*

Penketh High School students deserve the enhanced educational, employment and capital investment opportunities that joining and helping shape TCAT will bring both now and long into the future.

The period of consultation will be from 12th January until the 9th February 2017, closing at 12 noon. The full consultation document is available on the following website www.tcat.uk.com providing more detail about this proposal and the potential benefits we feel this will have for students and staff at Penketh High School. If you would like us to send you a hard copy, please ring the school on 01925 722298 or email us at tcat@penketh.warrington.gov.uk

Governors and the Leadership Team at Penketh High School are strongly committed to ensuring that we do what is right for our school, serve our community well and continuing on our journey to outstanding. Over the past eighteen months we have been exploring a number of possible partnership arrangements and we have concluded that joining **The Challenge Academy Trust** offers the most exciting and wide-ranging opportunities for our students and staff, whilst maintaining the strong ethos and values we cherish.

The strong partnership we have with our families is important to us and we truly value your feedback and views in this consultation.

We would be very grateful if you could take the time to respond to the consultation by completing the on-line survey proforma which you can find on the TCAT website www.tcat.uk.com. The survey in its simplest form will not take long to complete. We are keen to capture all viewpoints and do also welcome longer and fuller responses.



Alternatively, you can complete the survey proforma in the consultation document and return it to: John Holmes, Chair of Governors c/o The Clerk of Governors, Penketh High School, Heath Road, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BY.

In addition, we will be holding two open events to support this important consultation process. You are welcome to attend either and so that we can manage numbers we would appreciate it if you contact the respective school in advance should you wish to attend.

Venue	Date and Time	Contact
Bridgewater High School, Broomfields Road, Warrington Cheshire WA4 3AE	23rd January 2017 7.00pm	l.hyde@bridgewaterhigh.com
Great Sankey Primary School Liverpool Road, Great Sankey Warrington Cheshire WA5 1SB	30th January 7.00pm	GreatSankey_Primary@warrington.gov.uk

We will keep you fully informed of future developments and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Dunne
Principal

John Holmes
Chair of Governors