

**Q – Will the MAT stop migration of pupils due to moving house?**

A – No migration of pupils may still occur.

**Q - Will the Directors of the MAT be paid?**

A- No all Directors are unpaid.

**Q – Why are the Chairs of the Schools’ Governing Bodies not automatically on the Board of Directors?**

A - Whilst in some MATs the chairs of each schools Local Governing Body are automatically also Directors. The Department of Education recommends that the Board of Directors is made up of people with relevant skills and experience rather than simply based on a representative model. Directors are legally required to act in the best interests of all the pupils across the schools within the MAT.

**Q - Where will you find the Directors of the MAT from?**

A – The likelihood is that they will initially be made up from the existing Board of Governors across the schools that are forming the MAT. The school may have to recruit new Governors for Gerrans Local Governing Body.

**Q - Will the Directors of the MAT have a responsibility to all the schools?**

A – Yes, the Board of Directors are ultimately accountable for the finance and performance of all schools within the MAT.

**Q – If the School is not financially viable will the MAT close it?**

A- If the school ends the year in a deficit position an action plan would be drawn up to try to overcome this position. The funding agreement for any academy school can be terminated by a MAT if the cost of running the academy would cause the MAT to become insolvent. If the MAT wanted to amalgamate or merge one academy with another then they would need to seek the consent of the Secretary of State and to follow a legal process, which involves a period of consultation followed by submission of a business case.

**Q - If the school closes what will happen to the school and land?**

A – The land and building of the school which are currently owned by the local authority will be leased to the academy trust on a 125 year lease for a peppercorn rent. If the academy trust closes the school then the lease will end and the land and buildings will revert back to the local authority.

**Q- Is the School at risk with the Local Authority at present?**

A – At present the school numbers are stable, however we are unable to comment on the future. However being part of MAT may enable us to generate/save money on sharing of staff bulk buying of equipment etc.

**Q Why is St Mawes not part of the MAT?**

A – At present St Mawes Governing Body do not wish to become part of the MAT. It is possible for them to join the MAT in the future.

**Q - What is meant by being “forced” into other MAT?**

A The trigger for “forced academisation” is where a school is designated as “eligible for intervention”. This would currently happen if a school received a “Inadequate” Ofsted judgement or failed to comply with a warning notice issued by the Local Authority. If the Education and Adoption Bill becomes law, then schools which are deemed to be “coasting” could also be forced to become an academy. If this happens then the department for Education will tell the school what MAT they are required to join, which may not be in the same area. By entering this MAT at the beginning we are able to join with schools that we already have a close working relationship with.

**Q – Will Gerrans continue to follow the National Curriculum?**

A - Whilst academies are free not to follow the National Curriculum, we think that it already gives us a lot of freedom and we would propose to continue to follow it. We are still required to enter pupils in to the national tests in English, Maths and Science at the end of Key Stage 2.

**Q -How will this affect future Ofsted inspections?**

A – Ofsted will continue to inspect us a single entity.

**Q - How do we feedback prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> November?**

A – You can fill in the form attached to the MAT letter dated 02<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 and/or attend the next Parental Consultation on the 11<sup>th</sup> November at 9am.

**Q - Is it possible to have a Parental Consultation after working hours as some parents are unable to attend due to work commitments?**

A – We will take this on board and will try to arrange a suitable date/time.

**Q - Who will have the final say?**

A – The Governing Body will decide if Gerrans is going to progress to join the MAT. However the Department of Education will have the final decision.