

St Mary's C E Primary School

Academy Conversion Consultation Questions & Answers

Staff Meeting, Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 3.45pm

Attendees:

Neil Dixon, CEO, CDAT
Rachel Tainsh, Headteacher, St Mary's C E Primary School
Hardip Hayer, Senior Project Manager, AMF UK (Ltd)
Suzanne Rimmer, Project Support Assistant, AMF UK (Ltd)
Staff x 24

QUESTION: In terms of the buildings and land a lot of work is required, will CDAT support with this?

ANSWER: ND (CEO at CDAT) explained that once schools joined the trust, there is limited money for this. All schools in the trust are currently having condition surveys. Schools retain their DFC (Devolved Formula Capital). The trust do not receive funding for large jobs.

COMMENT: RT, Headteacher added that school currently has bids in with the Diocese for improvement works. Simon Geddis from the Diocese reassured that they are reluctant to allow a building in this state go to an Academy without bringing it up to standard.

QUESTION: Will current funding for sports, ICT development still be available?

ANSWER: ND (CEO at CDAT) confirmed yes, SEN, PP, Sports Funding goes to direct to the school. Schools are still able to apply for grants. None of our schools are worse off when transferring to CDAT.

COMMENT: Another school that has recently converted to an Academy, staff had reservations initially, but it has been a positive experience.

COMMENT: ND (CEO at CDAT) added that there are opportunities to share practice with other schools, but staff not forced.

QUESTION: Linked in with that, could the Executive Head model happen?

ANSWER: ND (CEO at CDAT) confirmed that only our smallest school with 15 children has this model, all our other schools have a head and local governing body.

QUESTION: What does TUPE stand for?

ANSWER: Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment.