



**Consultation on proposed  
conversion to academy status  
and the formation of a multi-  
academy trust**

## **What are we proposing to do -**

- For Lord Deramore's Primary School to apply to convert to academy status
- For Lord Deramore's Primary School to join with a number of our partner primary schools and Fulford Secondary School to create a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)



# Reasons for this proposed course of action

- To strengthen and formalise our current partnership working to benefit our school community
- To increase our capacity to improve
- To respond to the changing local and national context
- To shape the future destiny of our school



## The Changing National Context

- All new schools must be free schools with academy status
- Local Authorities are losing their role in school improvement
- Changes to school funding and cuts in council budgets will further erode LA capacity to support schools

# The Changing Local Context

- There are now three cross phase MATs in the city
- Five of the nine mainstream secondary schools are either in MATs or are consulting on MAT status
- A growing number of primary schools are in MATs or are consulting on MAT status
- York MATs are currently involved in a range of school to school support improvement work both within and beyond the city
- Low funding levels create unique pressures on York schools
- It is highly likely that York will soon reach the 'tipping point' which would lead to forced conversions

# Reasons for seeking to establish a MAT

- To get the best outcomes for all of our children
- To create a real family of schools and to create a 'through school' framework
- To work together to improve the standards of teaching and curriculum provision
- To drive up standards by sharing best practice

# Reasons for seeking to establish a MAT

- To achieve economies of scale and to improve value for money through pooling resources, services and support
- To maintain and develop each school's individual culture, values, ethos and identity.
- To improve recruitment, retention, continuing professional development and succession planning
- To shape our own destiny within a changing school system
- To future proof our school as far as possible against changes in the legislative and policy framework for education

# Changes under academisation

- The MAT would be run as a charitable company
- It would have a central Board of Trustees and Members who are responsible for standards and finance in the MAT
- School funding would come directly from the Education Funding Agency rather than the local authority
- It would be responsible to the Regional Schools Commissioner in addition to other external bodies e.g. OFSTED
- The creation of the MAT would create a structure for joint procurement and joint appointments
- There is the capacity for the MAT to sponsor other schools



# Things that would stay the same

- There would be no changes to uniform, charges, admissions or SEN support
- Staff would be employed by the MAT but would transfer across on existing pay and conditions
- Each school would still have its own Headteacher and local governing body
- The curriculum and assessment models would stay the same
- Existing cluster and feeder schools outside the MAT would still work with it
- The MAT would still work closely with the LA and other schools

A large, stylized blue floral graphic serves as the background for the slide. It features a central circular motif with several rounded petals extending outwards, all rendered in a thick blue line-art style.

## Conversion Timeline

- October - November : consultation
- December : decision taken by governing body
- December – April : Start application process if the proposal is approved
- April – September : Conversion process