Appendix 2: Application for Conditional Consent for a Church of England school within the Diocese of Hereford to Convert to a Multi-Academy Trust

The Multi-Academy Trust applying for a school to join their Trust must feature in the current Diocesan Academisation Strategy. The Trust must have followed the procedures outlined in the Diocesan Academisation Strategy and understands the additional conditions that may be requested to support the sustainability of all church schools in the Diocese.

The school wishing to join the trust must also apply to the Herford Diocesan Board of Education (HDBE). Submissions should be simultaneously made by the Trust and school so they may be reviewed at the same HDBE meeting.

Please give as much information as you are able about the Multi-Academy Trust.

If your application for conditional consent is approved, we will issue a Conditional Consent Letter.

The Conditional Consent Letter will include the conditions which must be met before the Diocese will enter into the Agreements necessary for conversion. We will communicate directly with the School and Academy Trust, and our solicitors will communicate directly with the solicitors acting for the Trust to ensure that these conditions are met.

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| **Information for the Hereford Diocesan Board of Education (HDBE) about a Multi-Academy Trust which is proposed to be joined by a Church of England school/academy. This should be completed by the Trust and forms part of the consent process of the HDBE.** |
| **1** | **Name of Multi-Academy Trust (MAT)** |  |
| **Name of CofE school wishing to join** |  |
|  | **Is the CofE school currently LA Maintained or a Stand-Alone Academy (SAT)?** |  |
| **Multi-Academy Trust Information** |
| **2**  | **Names of other schools in this MAT** *(please state age range, current Ofsted grade, SIAMS Judgement and church or non-church school status)* |  |
|  | **Location/s of schools within the MAT** *(nearest large town/s)* |  |
| **Multi-Academy Trust** |
| **3** | **Number of children educated within the MAT (please indicate total as well as separate academy numbers on role)** |  |
|  | **Number and roles of MAT central staff team** |  |
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| **4** | **Please outline the MAT’s reasons for wishing to take on the church school in question** |
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| **5** | **Please outline the MAT’s vision and values and explain how these are sympathetic with the Church of England’s 2016 vision for education, ‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’** |
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| **6** | **Please outline the MAT’s plans for supporting and promoting the deeply Christian nature of the church school, thereby enabling the school to retain and develop its Christian ethos, vision, and values.** |
|  | a) |  |
|  | b) | Please confirm that the school /trust will be accessing the Diocese of Hereford - Education Team’s Partnership Agreement to ensure access to relevant training and support in relation to church schools’ distinctiveness and development.Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |
|  |
| **7** | **Please outline the MAT’s plans and capacity to provide effective school improvement support and challenge to the new academy. Please include reference to existing demands on the MAT’s resources.**  |
|  | a) |  |
|  | b) | ***Please attach the Trust’s offer for Schools*** |
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| **8** | **MAT Financial Statement**  |
| Annual MAT Budget: |
|  |  | **£ Surplus** | **£ Deficit** |
| a) | Please specify surplus/deficit from last year’s revenue budget |  |  |
| b) | Please specify surplus/deficit from last year’s capital budget |  |  |
| c) | Please indicate if the MAT has run a deficit budget in the last three years  |  |  |
| d) | Please indicate if the Trust indicates a deficit budget in the next three years |  |  |
| Please indicate the Trust’s current reserve position (not including any building assets)  | **£** |
| *If current figures suggest a future deficit, please indicate the MAT’s plan to address this:* |
|  | e) | Please indicate if the Trust has had any interventions from the DfE/ESFA detailing the circumstances and outcomes. |
| f) | ***Please attach a copy of the Trust’s financial plan and statement.*** |
| g) | *Please outline the growth plan/strategy for the Trust* |
| h) | *Please confirm if and when the growth plan/strategy was approved by the Trust Board.* |
| i) | ***Please attach a copy of the Trust’s growth plan*** |
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| **9** | **Appointment of Governing Body** |
| *a)* | *It is the expectation of DHET that the constitution of the new academy’s Local Governing Board (or equivalent) reflects that of the school’s Full Governing Board prior to conversion.* |
| *b)* | *The MAT has ensured that members of the current Governing Body understand the roles and responsibilities of the Local Board post conversion, as set out in the Trust’s Scheme of Delegated Authority.* |
|  | *c)* | ***Please attach the most recent Scheme of Delegated Authority.*** |
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| **10** | **Statement of Awareness** |
| ✓ | *The MAT Members and Trustees confirm that they are aware that (please tick)* |
|  | (a) | any Church of England school in the Trust is to continue to offer an education which is in harmony with the Church’s 2016 vision for education, ‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’ |
|  | (b)  | they agree that the MAT will work closely with the Diocesan Education Team to promote and develop the church school’s deeply Christian ethos, vision, and values through the Diocesan Partnership Agreement |
|  | (c) | the Trust must have or adopt the most recent Articles of Association in order for an additional school to join the Trust |
|  | (d)  | the HDBE may withhold consent if the school and/or trust financial position may jeopardise the stability of the Trust  |
|  | (e) | they may be asked to consider additional schools for conversion as a conditional of providing consent |
|  | (f) | they must consult with the HDBE on admission arrangements for any church school |
|  | (g) | they must gain HDBE consent prior to obtaining a change of age range |
|  | (h) | they must gain HDBE consent before undertaking any building works at any church school |
|  | (i) | they are giving assurance to the HDBE that the Trust has the capacity and expertise to provide appropriate school effectiveness support and challenge to the new academy |
|  | (j) | they are giving assurance to the HDBE that the Trust is financially robust and sustainable |
|  | (k) | the HDBE the requires governance representation as outlined in the Articles of Association |
|  | (l) | the HDBE requires that the constitution of the new academy’s Local Board reflects that of the school’s FGB prior to conversion |
|  | (m) | the HDBE expects that the Trust has made clear to the school governors the changes to their roles and responsibilities once the school is part of the Trust. |
|  | (n) | DHET/HDBE appointed Trustees will report to DHET/HDBE annually or where significant change or concerns arise. |
|  | (o) | A review of teaching and learning in at least one of the Trust’s Church of England schools will be undertaken annually by the Diocesan Education Team |
|  | (p) | The Trust will not change the school’s name or logo without prior consent from the DBE. |
| **Signatures:** |
| **Chair of the Board of Trustees** |  | **Print name:** |
| **Signed:** |  | **Date:** |
| **Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent – please state)** |  | **Print name:** |
| **Signed:** |  | **Date:** |