

Nexus Multi Academy Trust Enterprise Works 300 Meadowhall Way Sheffield S9 1EA www.nexusMAT.org

Warren Carratt Chief Executive Officer Nexus Multi Academy Trust

Thursday, 19 June 2025

Dear families,

Proposed merger between Ebor Academy Trust and Nexus Multi Academy Trust

Ebor Academy Trust and Nexus Multi Academy Trust are opening a consultation on proposals to merge, forming a larger, more resilient multi academy trust (MAT).

As your child's school is part of the Nexus MAT, we want to know what you think about our plans.

The consultation will help us gather feedback from families, our employees, governors and trade unions. This is your opportunity to let us know if you have any comments or concerns about the proposal. The Boards of both Trusts will review your feedback, before making an application to the Department for Education, which is ultimately responsible for deciding whether the merger can take place.

The consultation will run from Thursday, 19 June until Friday, 18 July 2025 at 5pm. We'll update you on the outcome in the Autumn term. The link to the consultation form can be found at the bottom of this letter.

Combining our knowledge and experience

We recognise both the privilege and the responsibility we have to provide a safe, inspiring and happy learning environment for your child. This remains our top priority.

Combining our Trusts would give us a unique opportunity to bring together the wealth of expertise both organisations have in improving and maintaining standards in both mainstream primary and special schools.

With 25 mainstream primary schools and one special school, Ebor's experience complements Nexus' experience, with our 20 special schools and one mainstream primary school.

The benefits of merging

Bringing our Trusts together will create a larger academy Trust that will have several key benefits:



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- Increased capacity in all our schools to support our learners both in mainstream primary and special schools;
- Greater economies of scale meaning that we can make each pound of funding go much further, improving our learners' experience of school;
- A significantly more resilient organisation thanks to the combined resources, knowledge and experience of both Trusts;
- More influence at a national level, meaning that we have the opportunity to drive more informed policy decisions with government stakeholders - with the ultimate aim of improving the education sector for our learners and employees alike.

The Department for Education encourages multi-academy trusts to explore merging. Larger multiacademy trusts are better equipped to withstand economic pressures, ensure long-term sustainability, and continue to improve educational standards for learners.

What this means for you

As two well-managed and successful MATs, we are in a strong position to merge with as little disruption as possible. We're not proposing any changes to how our schools function, or how they're managed on a day-to-day basis. This means things like school uniforms, and the teachers and staff you know and trust, will all remain the same.

In the future, we may align some systems, policies and processes to make things as streamlined and efficient as possible for our employees, but this will not impact your child's experience of school.

The work we've done so far

Over the past year, our Trusts have been in conversation – supported by independent advice and guidance – to explore whether merging our Trusts would be viable and achieve our planned objectives.

Together we've undertaken a rigorous approach to due diligence, making sure we have a thorough understanding of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the proposed merger.

The Boards of both Trusts have owned this process, making sure that the proposed merger benefits our learners, and is in keeping with the values, ethos and strategic objectives of both Trusts.







Where you can go for more information

We've included a set of frequently asked questions with this letter which we hope will address most of your queries. If you have a question that isn't answered, you can ask additional questions through the consultation survey.

Please let us know what you think by completing the consultation survey using this link: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/N2dUDgi6HQ</u>

Over the past decade, we've worked hard to build something positive together. Whatever the outcome of the consultation, our priority is for our schools to remain safe, happy places where children thrive, and employees are motivated and fulfilled.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Yours faithfully,

Rachel Potts Chair – Board of the Board of Directors

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Warren Carratt Chief Executive Officer