

Outer West Learning Trust MAT proposal

Updated Parent and Governor Frequently Asked Questions following consultation feedback

Could a MAT become merged with a bigger MAT in the future?

It is the Outer West Learning Trust's intention to be a strong MAT of the nine founding school members.

It may be that voluntary mergers between MATs will become more prevalent, in future, as the education landscape continues to develop. Any potential merger will be subject to the Regional School Director considering and approving a proposal to merge before it can go ahead. Voluntary collaborative mergers are a distinct and very different form of action from a rebrokered transfer.

What happens if a number of schools begin to fail in a MAT? Can they be taken over?

The vision of the proposed MAT is to ensure its schools can be supported and challenged through the principles set out in the Memorandum of Understanding, Articles of Association and Scheme of Delegation.

Rebrokering is usually a form of intervention that requires, as instructed by a regional schools director, a trust to transfer one or more of its academies to another academy trust.

Can the Trust impose how each schools runs?

In order for the Trust Board to undertake its main responsibilities of setting the strategic direction of the trust, holding senior school leadership to account and overseeing the trust's financial performance, there will need to be systems in place for communication between Local Governing Bodies, the Trust Board and its other committees. The Articles of Association and Scheme of Delegation will set out these procedures, responsibilities and accountabilities. As a new MAT, these decisions will be made in the next stage of the conversion process and will involve all schools.

Each Head Teacher would still be responsible for running their own school. The nine Head Teachers together would form a leadership group to develop plans for partnership working and collaboration.