

# De Bohun Primary School

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## FAQs for Parents & Carers

If your child's school is considering becoming an academy within our MAT you may have some questions about what that entails and what it means for your child's education. Below you will find a list of frequently asked questions.

### What is an academy?

An academy is a publicly funded independent school that provides free education to local students. Academies provide a teaching and learning environment that is in line with the best in the maintained sector and offer a broad and balanced curriculum to students of all abilities.

### How are academies managed?

They are run by an appointed Headteacher and senior leadership team, all of whom are supported by a governing body. This body is selected by a trust, which has strategic oversight of the academies.

### What happens to my children at a school wishing to become an academy?

Pupils in such a position will transfer with the school to the academy without any need for them or their parents to do anything.

### Will a proposed new academy have a new name or lose its individuality?

We recognise that schools have their own unique identity, and we want to celebrate this. We see this as a key benefit of being part of our MAT. There is currently no expectation that your school's uniform, name or its distinctiveness would be altered as a result of your school's conversion.

### How will an academy respond to children with special needs?

The academy will work within the framework of the Local Authority's SEN policies as they do now.



**"From possibility to reality..."**



### **How is an academy funded and does this improve on current funding arrangements?**

Academies receive the same level of per-pupil funding as maintained schools, plus funding to meet additional responsibilities that are no longer provided for them by the local authority. Headteachers and governors in academies have greater freedom over how they use these budgets to best benefit their students.

The MAT will be looking at how all the funding available to the school is used, including that previously retained by the local authority. The MAT will be seeking to find efficiencies that allow for more resources to be made available to the academy.

### **How will admissions work?**

Parents will apply to the Local Authority for a place at a school in the usual way.

### **How will parents be represented on the governing body?**

At least one elected parent governor will be on the governing body - as now.