

Consultation on Joining Nexus

MAT

July 2023



Problems we have been facing

- Lack of support regarding the numbers of students on roll - Bents Green has grown rapidly in a way that has not been strategically planned for – this cannot continue
- Lack of citywide strategic planning to enable us to plan for our future cohorts
- Lack of citywide strategic planning for growing Post 16 provision across the city



Impact on our students...

- Larger class sizes (plus loss of specialist rooms)
- Massive range of needs (huge curriculum offer/ staff expertise needed)
- Last minute changes to adapt to new situations that were not predictable.
- Lack of ability to move the school in a set direction to cater for students' needs, due to lack of clarity of longer terms plans
- Now a split site school



Solution?

- Governors have been investigating how joining a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) could support our long-term vision, and help us secure clarity and control over our future
- Governors have completed a lot of research and due diligence on local and national MATS
- Governors have visited schools and looked at different MATs vision/values and financial stability
- Governors have met with Chief Executives and other leaders from different MATs



Our Choices

- Do nothing – Things will remain the same, and the inability to long term plan will remain the same. Governors and Co-Heads do not feel this is in the best interest of the school.
- Move to a MAT – Whilst we have a **choice** and can **take ownership** of the process. Find a MAT that aligns with our values and will support our long-term vision for Bents Green.



Decision

Having completed a long process of comparison, Governors have voted that Bents Green school would align best with, and get the most support from, Nexus MAT.

Governors want to make the choice over who we partner with and when. We believe now is the right time.



Why Nexus?

- Nexus MAT will **enable Bents Green to keep its own identity**
- Nexus MAT have a **solid understanding of Sheffield LA** and operates several schools in Sheffield
- Nexus MAT will support us to have a **clear admissions policy**, and work with us and the other local ASC Special schools to ensure we each have a clear cohort
- Nexus MAT has many Special Schools in the local region, and we will be able to **work collaboratively** with these schools to develop our curriculum, and offer support to others



Consultation Process

- We are now in a consultation period where parents, staff and other key stakeholders will have opportunities to provide feedback
- This process finishes on 21st July



How can you give your views and feedback

- Via email to chair of Governors:

lgillespie@bentsgreen.sheffield.sch.uk

- Via letter: Chair of Governors, Bents Green School, Ringinglow Rd



Thank you

- We value all parent and carer's views
- We hope you feel reassured that Governors and Co-Headteachers have thoroughly researched this process, and feel confident that this will be of huge benefit to our whole school community

