



Ursula Taylor Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Morrall BEd (Hons) NPQH

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last few months, the Governing Body of Ursula Taylor C of E Primary School have been considering the future of our Standalone Academy School. We have been looking at a variety of options and considering what is best for the future of our children, families, staff and school community.

As a Church School we have always enjoyed and benefited from a positive and close relationship with our Diocese, the Diocese of St. Albans. We have for many years, had a shared ethos and vision and have highly valued being able to learn from our colleagues within the Diocese, as well as contributing towards the support of other schools. We have been able to enhance the inclusive and community focused culture we have at Ursula Taylor.

Throughout this process of research, I have been working very closely with the Central Team in the Diocese of St. Albans Multi-Academy Trust (DSAMAT) and colleague Heads from the schools already part of the Trust. I have seen first-hand the added value that being in the Trust will bring. There are opportunities for greater collaboration, support, guidance and school development, including chances for our staff to experience a greater range of opportunity and enhanced professional development.

I am writing to inform you that the Governing Board have voted unanimously to join the Diocese of St. Albans Multi-Academy Trust. We will be seeking to officially become part of the Trust during the Autumn Term 2021, at this time an exact date is not known but we will communicate this when we have clarity.

We are in a strong position here at Ursula Taylor, with a recent 'Good' Ofsted Judgement and an 'Outstanding' Church School Inspection judgement. We have worked hard over the last decade to develop our provision, both academically and pastorally and I welcome the opportunity to continue this journey within a close family of schools.

Ursula Taylor will retain its identity as a local, community focused Primary School. The Diocese MAT truly values every school within its family, and champions every child's right to a rich and fulfilling education which sees them flourish and grow. We will retain our curriculum, uniform, school name, badge and staffing structures. Parents and children, will see very little change to life at Ursula Taylor, but will benefit from the richness that working in a wider team brings to our children and our provision.

I am very much looking forward to forming strong, mutually beneficial links with the Diocese MAT, which will support our continued school development and our journey to becoming an outstanding provision with our children at the heart of all we do.

I appreciate that you may have questions and invite you to ask them in the following way. Please email: office@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk and use 'DSAMAT Questions' in the subject bar.

Kind regards,

VJ Morrall Vicki Morrall, Headteacher.