



Department
for Education

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for the West Midlands
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Dear Parents

Congleton MAT – Congleton High, Black Firs and Castle Schools

Following my letter to you at the start of September, I want to update you on the conclusion of my discussions and the next steps.

Having taken the summer period to listen to views from a range of stakeholders including parents, I have worked with the trust to agree a way forward that benefits and secures the best outcomes for all children at Congleton High, Black Firs and Castle Primary.

Taking all of the evidence and feedback into account, my decision is that for CMAT to be a viable, sustainable and a strong MAT, all three schools must remain as part of CMAT. The trust needs a period of stability and consolidation and I will continue to review progress and performance.

I do, of course understand that there must be some changes as the current state of affairs is damaging to all. Similarly, I am clear that all three schools are performing well and I do not want to jeopardise the future or performance of any of the three schools. I have therefore agreed a number of structural changes with the trust as a first step.

To share the details of the changes, I have asked the trust to hold a parent meeting, inviting parents from all three schools, within the next two weeks. The trust will set out the changes and the new direction for CMAT that we have agreed. My team will continue to work with the trust to ensure that CMAT offers an excellent provision across the local area.

Yours sincerely

Christine Quinn

Regional Schools Commissioner, West Midlands