



Meadowside Community Primary and Nursery School
Clough Avenue, Longford
Warrington. WA2 9PH

Headteacher: Mr S Wright, BA(Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Chair of Governors: Mr G Harris

Tel: 01925 632705 Email: meadowside_primary@warrington.gov.uk <http://www.meadowsidecpschool.co.uk/>

Thursday 7th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, over the last eighteen months we have been working closely with a number of schools with the intention of joining **The Challenge Academy multi-academy Trust (TCAT)** which consists of:

- Beamont Collegiate Academy
- Great Sankey Primary School
- Penketh South Primary School
- Priestley College
- Sir Thomas Boteler CofE High School
- Penketh High School
- Bridgewater High School
- Padgate Academy

Working with these schools and the college has already proved beneficial for Meadowside pupils in many ways, including:

- Staff have started to develop stronger partnerships with professionals in other establishments to share best practice and to consider transition for pupils into the secondary sector (regardless of which high school they will be moving to).
- Peer reviews of teaching and learning have taken place to help to further improve teaching and learning for our pupils.
- The children have benefited very directly from teaching sessions from subject specialists as well as links that have been developed with Oxford University.
- Joint staff training across the primary schools to enhance subject leadership
- Staff involved in cross-MAT subject 'hubs' dedicated to finding common areas for development in our schools, enriching our curriculum and providing exciting experiences for our pupils.

In addition, I meet very regularly with the Heads and the Principals of the schools and college to discuss how to continue to make real improvements which will make a positive difference to the children.





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After consultation with all interested parties and approval from governors, we have now been given the official 'go-ahead' by the Regional Schools Commissioner to join TCAT and so we will become an academy on 1st December 2019. Broomfields Junior School has also been successful in its application and will be joining TCAT with us.

This is fantastic news for Meadowside and its pupils but in practice, you will probably notice very little difference! **We will still be a community school; the name of the school will remain the same; the uniform will be the same** and we will continue to work with the Local Authority and other schools who are not part of TCAT. Instead, there will be subtle differences as we continue to work to enhance the experiences that the children have on a day-to-day basis. We will also try to make savings by sharing services and expertise, allowing more of our funds to be spent on the children.

All of the Heads, Principals and Governors share our ethos of wanting the best for children and we will continue to have a high level of autonomy so that the majority of key decisions will still be for the governors and staff to make. This was very important to us as a school when we were considering joining a MAT (Multi-Academy Trust). We are very excited about the future prospects for Meadowside Community Primary & Nursery School and the opportunities that being in such a forward-thinking Trust will provide us with. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards

Stuart Wright
Headteacher

