

# Multi Academy Trust Information

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## **Unity Academy Trust**

**Northgate High School & Dereham Sixth Form College,  
Garvestone Primary, Beeston Primary, Kings Park Infant, Grove  
House Nursery & Infant**

# Unity Academy Trust

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**'Together we are stronger!'**

# Background: A culture for collaboration

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- *The Government see the long term future for schools as developing collaboratively through local groupings*
- *Schools across the country are developing new models of leadership for many reasons, primarily to raise and maintain standards by extending the reach of the best leaders, to secure greater operational efficiencies by working in partnership, and to build sustainability of leadership and of small schools.*

# Background: A culture for collaboration

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- *As schools are held more accountable to their communities, there is an awareness that schools need to work more collaboratively in order to bring about improvement for all children.*
- *New models are not just about structural change: they are built on a shared commitment to improving attainment, well-being and life chances for children and young people – and this moral purpose, accompanied by outward-facing vision, is paramount in overcoming barriers to success*
- *At a local level we have been considering formal collaborative models for a considerable period of time and we are convinced that becoming a MAT is the best way forward to enhance our current partnership*

# A collaborative model: Multi Academy Trust

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## What is a MAT?

A Multi Academy Trust (MAT) is a group of academies that work together in a single academy trust. All the academies are state schools, receive funding directly from the Department for Education and are independent of local authority control.

# Proposal for a MAT: Unity Academy Trust

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The following five schools plan to form the Unity Academy Trust:

- Northgate High School & Dereham Sixth Form College
- Garvestone Primary School
- Beeston Primary School
- Kings Park Infant School
- Grove House Nursery & Infant School.

# A partnership of like minded aspirational schools!

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- Each school remains at the heart of its community
- Every child makes excellent progress and achieves their potential
- Children have access to a rich and varied curriculum
- Children are kept safe, cared for, nurtured and supported
- Aspirations and expectations are set high for everyone
- An unrelenting commitment to continue to work with our cluster of schools and foster further partners into our MAT where appropriate.

# A partnership of like minded aspirational schools!

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- Collaboration, partnership and enterprise are central to our work
- Trust and mutual respect underpin all relationships across all partner schools
- Early intervention for schools or individuals that need support
- Diversity is welcomed and celebrated
- A strong positive partnership with parents
- Teachers enjoy teaching and children enjoy learning
- A desire to share practice between learners and teachers across the schools

# How will this affect our families and school communities?

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- Day to day running for the school will remain unchanged
- The school will continue to have individual governing bodies including parents
- The ethos and individual distinctiveness of the schools will remain with greater collaborative visions and ethos to supplement our efforts
- Sharing specialist knowledge and experience will continue e.g. sharing musical, dance and drama projects, and sports.
- In a rapidly changing educational landscape together we are able to protect the unique character of schools and their surrounding community
- There will be no change to our Admissions criteria as a result of joining the MAT

# What next

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- FAQ's can be found on our websites
  - Should you wish to comment on our formal proposals, representation can be made to each school email (please check our websites) or in writing to each of the schools Chair of Governors by Monday 14th November 2016
  - Chair of Governors Northgate High School & Dereham Sixth Form College – Mr Alan Jones
  - Chair of Governors – Beeston Primary – Mr Michael Kimber
  - Chair of Governors – Garvestone Primary – Mrs Carolyn Reid
  - Chair of Governors – Kings Park Infant & Grove House Nursery and Infant – Mr Gavin Redwood.