

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

Dear Colleagues,

**Update on the proposed merger for Cathedral School Trust and Trust in Learning Academies.**

On 25th April 2025, we wrote to inform you of the proposed merger between Cathedral Schools Trust and Trust in Learning Academies and invited you to engage with the process. We are now writing to share an update from the engagement period, which took place between 23rd April and 16th May 2025 and to confirm our next steps. The purpose of this engagement was to ensure that all stakeholders were fully informed about the rationale behind the proposal and to give an opportunity to provide feedback or raise any initial questions.

We would like to thank all everyone who took the time to respond. We appreciate that decisions of this nature are significant for our pupils, staff and community, and we are genuinely grateful for the thoughtful and constructive feedback.

Your contributions have helped shape the ongoing planning work and provided valuable insight into the priorities and hopes of our school communities.

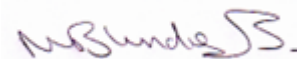
Feedback showed a broad understanding of the merger's aims, and a number of questions were raised about admissions, curriculum, trust growth, and financial planning. In response, we have updated the FAQs available on the trust websites and have shared all comments with both Boards. The numbers of responses were relatively low, a proportion were positive about the project and others raised some important questions and asked for further clarification. As a result, where more specific individual questions were raised, we have responded directly to you.

The next stage in the process is for the Department for Education to consider the proposal in June. We will continue to provide updates via our website and should you wish to find out more, you are very welcome to continue to contact us on [engagement@edwinpeople.com](mailto:engagement@edwinpeople.com).



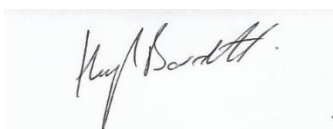
**Sue Elliott, CEO**

**Trust in Learning Academies**



**Neil Blundell, CEO**

**Cathedral Schools Trust**



**Hugh Barrett, Chair**

**Trust in Learning Academies**



**Sir David Eastwood, Chair**

**Cathedral Schools Trust**