



# THE MERCIAN TRUST



The Mercian Trust is a group of schools working together under a common banner and an overarching structure of governance, but retaining their autonomy and unique identity as custodians of their heritage and successful operation.

The Schools have approval from the Department for Education to be incorporated legally as a Multi-Academy Trust or MAT. Our expectation is that the new MAT will officially form on 01 September 2017. However, we are already working together to pursue our goals and objectives.



## Ethos

Our Schools prepare pupils to enjoy life to the full by inspiring them to:

- Realise their potential as learners
- Thrive in the world of work
- Make a positive contribution to the local, national and international community



We are already working together on ...

## Curriculum

From September 2017, sixth form students in all MAT Schools will have the opportunity to study a range of specialist subjects which may not be on offer in their home school. In this way, we are able to offer a wider **choice** than ever before at a time when many schools are having to cut back the number of different courses available.

We have done this by creating a *MAT Block*: part of the working day which will be timetabled not just in one school, but across all the schools working together in the Multi Academy Trust. Sixth Formers may choose to do a subject from the MAT Block in a different school. This may mean a bit of extra travelling a couple of times a week, but we think it will be worth going the extra mile if it allows students to take a subject which really interests them or which prepares them for the post 18 pathway they have in mind.



## Enrichment

It is still very early days for The Mercian Trust, but our aim is clear: we want to use the new partnership to give all pupils the opportunity to participate in activities and trips organised by different schools in the MAT.

Walsall Studio School is housed in The Goldmine in Walsall Town Centre. Made in Birmingham TV also uses the Goldmine as its base. Through the MAT, pupils will get the chance to experience what it is like to work in a TV studio and related creative industries.

Other potential collaborative projects include ski trips and sports tours; the experience of a Cadet Force; The Duke of Edinburgh Award; sports competitions; a big-scale concert or drama production. We will turn this vision in to reality from September 2017.

## A Field centre in Wales

MAT Schools will have access to a Field Centre in North Wales. Situated on the Mawddach Estuary in the shadow of Cadair Idris in Snowdonia, Farchynys offers a venue for Geography and Biology Field courses and for so much more.



## Professional Development for Staff

The MAT provides a framework for all sorts of collaborative projects from the simple sharing of teaching resources and best practice to the more formal Teacher Subject Specialism Training (TSST) sponsored by the Department for Education.

We already lead the way in TSST for Maths and Physics and are in the process of submitting a bid for Modern Foreign Languages. The MAT will ensure that we have the right staff in place.

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Teacher subject specialism training  
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