

Multi Academy Trust Merger Consultation

Dear All,

You may be aware, a proposal is currently being progressed to create a new Multi Academy Trust, open to all Barrow-in-Furness schools.

As an initial phase, two local Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), Furness Academies Trust and Inspired Learning Trust, are seeking the approval of the Regional Schools Commissioner (North) to merge and form a new Trust sponsored by BAE Systems, the Furness Futures Multi Academy Trust.

Work on this formal application to merge has commenced and Phase Two of this development would be to incorporate other schools in Barrow interested in joining as an equal and equitable member.

Furness Academies Trust was established in July 2015 by BAE Systems Submarines and on 1st September 2015 the Trust commenced sponsorship of Furness Academy. Inspired Learning Multi Academy Trust was established in September 2015 incorporating three schools converting to academy status - Parkside GGI Academy, Victoria Academy and Yarlside Academy.

Since 2015, Furness Academy has successfully progressed, through two Ofsted Inspections, moving from 'Special Measures' to an overall judgement of 'Good' in September 2017. One of Inspired Learning Trust's schools is graded Outstanding with the remaining two being securely Good. The Yarlside Teaching School Alliance is an additional asset, which continues to develop into a successful provider of quality CPD, NQT induction and school-to-school support.

The new Trust aims to develop closer partnerships, strengthen teaching & learning, curriculum development and improve resource procurement.

The consultation period for this merger is now open and will remain open for 4 weeks, closing at 4pm on Friday 9 November.

If you have any comments that you wish to make, or questions you would like to ask about the merger, please email consultation@furnessacademy.co.uk. All communication regarding the merger during this period must be directed to this email address.

Yours faithfully,

Tony Burbridge
Chair, Furness
Academies Trust

Stuart Knagg
Chair, Inspired
Learning Trust