



Sandwell Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to share with you the news that Sandwell Academy has recently become a member of the Thomas Telford Multi Academy Trust (TTMAT). Since Sandwell Academy opened in 2006, we have benefitted from the support and close working relationship with our main sponsor Thomas Telford School. The formation of a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) formalises our partnership under a legal framework. Currently TTMAT consists of Sandwell, Madeley and Walsall Academies with Thomas Telford School keen to become a member in due course.

For parents and students there will be very little that changes. The day-to-day role and autonomy of the Headteachers within TTMAT will remain unchanged and I will continue to be the independent lead of my own Academy. All Headteachers will continue to be accountable to their Local Governing Board and control their own staffing appointments and budgets with support from a Director of Finance. It will be the responsibility of the Headteachers to support and develop their staff and to request collaborative support from colleagues in TTMAT or from Thomas Telford School, if required.

Each Academy will maintain its own identity, heritage and uniqueness which are symbols of their individual success. They will retain their existing names and logos, and continue to serve their local communities. The Academies will continue to adopt the Thomas Telford Template which provides each Academy with the flexibility to organise its curriculum provision and shape the educational conditions that support students to grow in to confident, articulate and responsible adults with the skills necessary to function in modern society.

Careers education will continue to be a key feature for the Academies and the established joint provisions which are already in place, will be further expanded under TTMAT. The requirement for all secondary schools and academies to promote apprenticeship opportunities is an area of significant focus. Our joint goal is that all students within TTMAT will secure a positive destination at the end of Year 11 or Sixth Form.

Should you have any questions about TTMAT and how it might impact your child's education then please submit your query to my PA, Mrs Drummond. You will also be able to find out further information from the TTMAT website, available from late October 2017 and linked to the Sandwell Academy website.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ian Williams
Headteacher



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