

Dear Parents and Carers,

Stronger Together: An Exciting New Chapter for Our Trust

Please find below a message from Mike Boddington, CEO Enlighten Learning Trust

As we look ahead to the future, we are delighted to share more information about the planned merger of Enlighten Learning Trust, Learning Partners Academy Trust and Learning Partners Church Academy Trust, which is currently progressing towards a formal merger date of 1 January 2027. School leaders from across all three trusts continue to be actively involved throughout the process to help shape our shared future and staff in all 3 trusts have already started to work together to align systems, processes and procedures.

Building a Stronger, More Resilient Trust

The merger represents a significant opportunity to bring together the strengths, expertise and experience of three successful trusts. By working as one organisation we will be better equipped to respond to future changes in the education landscape, ensuring a more resilient and sustainable trust that can continue delivering the very best outcomes for our children and young people.

Most importantly, this partnership is about being stronger together. By sharing knowledge, resources and best practice across a larger family of schools, we can enhance the support available to staff, strengthen leadership capacity and create even greater opportunities for pupils.

A Home for Church and Community Schools

A helpful way to think about the future trust is to look back at how schools worked together before the academy system existed. Across Surrey, church and community schools have long worked side by side, united by a shared commitment to serving their local communities while maintaining their own distinctive identities.

That spirit remains at the heart of the merger. The new trust will proudly be a home for both church and community schools. Our equity articles will ensure that the Christian distinctiveness of church schools continues to be protected, while the values and character of community schools are equally respected and upheld.

Preserving What Makes Each School Unique

While we are joining together as one trust, schools will continue to retain their individual identities and strengths. The merger will not change the role of local governing bodies, nor will it diminish the unique character, traditions and community relationships that make each school special.

Rather, the aim is to provide a stronger framework of support while allowing schools to continue flourishing within their own communities.

Our Shared Values

Work is currently underway to harmonise the values of the three trusts. This is not about changing who we are; rather, it is about bringing together the best of our existing cultures and creating a shared set of values that reflects our collective vision and purpose.

Keeping in Touch

We recognise that a merger of this scale naturally raises questions, and we remain committed to open communication throughout the process.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact us at enquiries@enlightenlt.education. Together, we are creating an exciting future built on collaboration, resilience and a shared commitment to ensuring every child can thrive.

Thank you for all your support and we hope you have a lovely summer.

Yours sincerely

Mike