**SELBY EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

The Selby Educational Trust continues to develop. As part of our commitment to create a family of schools around the College we are to apply to the Regional Schools Commissioner to become a Minority Mixed MAT in October 2018. The Regional Schools Commissioner has responsibility for approving MATs and Academies whilst supporting them in their work.

**FAQs**

**What is a Minority Mixed MAT?**

A Minority Mixed MAT is one which has a minority of Members approved by the Diocesan Board of Education. The DBE will also appoint 25% of the Trustees on the Board of the MAT. In our case this is the Diocese of York. It creates a position that enables us to talk with and allow Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools to join the MAT if the Governors approve. If the need arose in the future the MAT would be able to sponsor VC schools.

**Why is SET looking at this?**

If we are to fulfil our commitment that all schools in the MAT will be within 40 minutes journey to the College there are a number of VC schools that may wish to join. If we are not a mixed MAT this is not possible as the legislation stands.

**Does this mean that all schools in the MAT will be ‘church schools’?**

No. Each school will have a statement in their funding agreement which preserves the character of the school as a community school or a VC school. This is very important because the underlying philosophy of SET is that schools are part of their own community and it is not for SET to make arbitrary changes to create a ‘one size fits all’. This will involve a change in the Articles of Association of the MAT into minority church school articles. This change will ensure that the church school character will be preserved in the MAT whilst also ensuring that the character of the community schools is preserved and allowed to flourish. All Members, directors and local governors will sign an ethos undertaking to preserve and develop the character of each individual academy for which they are responsible. All Members will also sign a Members Agreement that sets out how they will appoint directors and that this will be based around the skills necessary for the Board to perform its functions effectively as well as by means of proportionality.

**What about Voluntary Aided schools?**

SET is not considering becoming a Majority Mixed MAT so will not under current legislation be able to accept applications from VA schools. (This only applies to church VA schools).

**Are there other minority mixed MATs?**

Yes but we wish VC schools to have a greater choice of MATs in the area. This aligns with the strategy of the Diocesan Board of Education where we are seeking to give schools a choice of MATS to join should a church school wish to convert to academy status.

**What are the steps?**

This document is the beginning of a consultation which will close on September 28th 2018. Anyone with a comment to make may contact the CEO of the SET loftusf@selby.ac.uk or by post to Selby Educational Trust (Consultation), Selby College, Abbots Road, Selby YO8 9AT.

Support will have to be given by the York Diocesan Board of Education and approval by the Charity Commission.

When a VC school expresses and interest in joining the SET the matter will be referred to the RSC Headteacher Board. If approval is given to go ahead then the conversion process will begin.

If you wish us to come to speak with the Chief Executive at any point please contact us at Selby College, Abbots Road, Selby YO8 9AT. Telephone 01757 211001