

Tapton SCHOOL

ACADEMY TRUST

Realising the life chances and dreams of every child

3rd December 2024

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you and your families are well.

We are writing today to share an important update about the future of Chaucer School. As you may be aware, Chaucer School was placed into special measures by Ofsted in June 2022, with the report published in September 2022. Since that time, Ofsted has visited the school three times and said the school was taking effective action towards the removal of special measures. However, we recognise more needs to be done to ensure the school can thrive and our young people receive the highest standard of education.

To further support improvement, the Department for Education (DfE) has proposed that Chaucer School has a fresh start in a new Academy Trust with increased capacity to support Chaucer's transformation. This proposal has been discussed by the Tapton School Academy Trust Board.

After thorough due diligence, the Tapton School Academy Trust Board are confident that the proposed new Trust has the capacity to ensure Chaucer School continues on its transformation journey. If Chaucer does transfer, the day-to-day experience of the children would continue as normal. However, you would start to notice further positive changes in their progress and outcomes as further improvements take hold.

By joining the new Trust, Chaucer School staff would benefit from new opportunities and access to their network of expertise, support and professional development, ensuring students receive the best possible teaching. We believe that this fresh start would be a chance to reinvigorate the school, leading to a renewed educational experience for its young people.

In terms of next steps, the DfE's Advisory Board will be meeting in December to determine the right home for Chaucer School moving forward. Once a new Trust is confirmed, we will communicate this with parents/carers at the earliest opportunity. We anticipate that, if the decision is to proceed, Chaucer School would formally become part of the new Trust on 1st April 2025, and we would work closely with them throughout the interim period to ensure a smooth transition.

Once formalised we will organise an information session for parents and carers to find out more about the new Trust and how it will support Chaucer School moving forward. This will provide the opportunity to meet their leaders and hear more about what being a part of the Trust would look like and the positive impact this would have for you and your child.



Registered address: Tapton School Academy Trust, Darwin Lane, Sheffield, S10 5RG
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Charitable Limited Company Registration Number: 07697171.
Registered office: England and Wales. VAT Number: 134392225.

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You will also hear more from Tapton School Academy Trust's CEO Lee Barber and Chaucer School's Headteacher Joanna Crewe about why this would be a positive step forward for the school and they will be able to answer any questions you may have.

We hope you agree this change would be a positive step for the school and we look forward to sharing more details with you in due course.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via enquiries@taptonttrust.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Lee Barber
CEO, Tapton School Academy Trust



Joanna Crewe
Headteacher, Chaucer School



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