

Thursday 26th March 2026



Dear parents and carers,

We hope you are well and that your child has been enjoying the final weeks of the spring term.

We are writing to share an important and positive update about the future of Chaucer School. Following extensive collaboration and due diligence, we can confirm that the school will formally transfer to Mercia Learning Trust later this year, hopefully in time for September 2026.

This decision has been taken to accelerate the school's improvement journey and build on the strong progress made in recent years. The Sheffield-based Mercia Learning Trust shares a close alignment in values and vision, and we are confident this next phase represents a significant opportunity for the school, its staff and its students.

Chaucer has been a highly valued member of the INOVA (formerly Tipton) family for many years, with strong collaboration along the way. The Trust, together with the senior leadership team at Chaucer, has achieved significant progress, including an impressive rise in attendance last year, placing it third nationally for improvement.

Similarly, Ofsted also acknowledged this progress during its visit last February, highlighting improvements in behaviour, curriculum, SEND provision, reading, personal development and careers, as well as attendance – all areas that have been prioritised by school leaders.

With this strong foundation in place, we are confident that Chaucer is well positioned to continue accelerating its improvement as part of Mercia Learning Trust. This improvement will be supported by a £2.4 million capital investment that is being provided by the DfE to support the school's buildings. Further information about what this transition will mean in practice, and the opportunities it will bring, will be shared shortly.

Staff and parent forums will also be arranged and communicated in due course, which will provide an opportunity to meet representatives from Mercia Learning Trust, ask questions and hear more about their plans for the school.

Throughout this process, ensuring the best possible outcomes and opportunities for our students has remained at the heart of every decision. We are confident that Chaucer will continue its positive trajectory and build further on the progress achieved to date.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this period. We look forward to working together to ensure a bright future for Chaucer School and its students, staff, families and wider community.

Yours sincerely,

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Headteacher
Chaucer School

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