



14 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Proposed transfer to Danes Educational Trust

As you may already be aware, The Hoddesdon School Trust Board (THST) is proposing that The Cranbourne Primary School, The John Warner School and Roselands Primary School transfer to Danes Educational Trust. As part of the process, we are consulting with parents, staff and other local stakeholders.

Who is Danes Educational Trust?

Danes Educational Trust (DET) was established as a multi-academy trust in June 2016, converting from a single academy trust, St Clement Danes, to allow the establishment of Croxley Danes School, a school opened under the free school programme. The Trust currently comprises nine Hertfordshire schools: Ascot Road Primary School, Chancellor's School, Croxley Danes School, De Havilland Primary School, Elstree Screen Arts Academy, Jupiter Primary School, Lanchester Primary School, Onslow St Audrey's School and St Clement Danes School.

The Chief Executive Officer is Dr Josephine Valentine, and the Trust office is based at St Clement Danes School in Chorleywood. Danes Educational Trust has a highly effective Central Services Team which supports schools with business, finance and payroll, governance, premises, health and safety, HR and recruitment, IT, communication and marketing.

More information about Danes Educational Trust is here: www.daneseducationaltrust.org.uk

Will the three HST schools definitely join Danes Educational Trust?

The Department for Education has approved for the three schools to transfer to Danes Educational Trust. It is hoped that the transfer will be completed by January 2024. However, the schools will not be obligated to transfer until the contract between DET and the Department for Education (known as the Supplemental Funding Agreement) is signed.

THST's Board will take into account any comments from stakeholders before taking the final decision to transfer. You are invited to a meeting on Thursday 12 October 2023 at 6.00pm to learn more about the proposals to transfer, or to comment in person on the proposals.

Any comments or representations which are made about the proposals will be considered by THST before a final decision is taken. Details of how to provide comments and representations are set out below.

Will the admissions arrangements change?

The current admission arrangements will remain in place for the time being. If an individual academy wanted to change its admission arrangements, a formal stakeholder consultation would be required.

Creating memories and futures together

Will staff leave?

If THST schools transfer to Danes Educational Trust, all staff currently employed by each school will automatically transfer to the Danes Educational Trust. Any change to pay and conditions would need to be consulted upon with staff representatives – no material changes are envisaged. We met with staff to introduce them to DET as part of this process. We will also run the TUPE process in November (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981).

How can I find out more?

A meeting will be held at The John Warner School on 12 October 2023 at 6.00pm to learn more about the proposals to transfer, or to comment in person on the proposals.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please email the Clerk, Fran Connolly at fran.connolly@hoddesdonschooltrust.com who will try to assist with any questions.

How can I make representations?

To respond to this consultation on whether the transfer of THST schools to DET should take place, representations can be made in writing to:

Fran Connolly
The Hoddesdon School Trust
Stanstead Road
Hoddesdon
Herts EN11 0QF

Or by email to fran.connolly@hoddesdonschooltrust.com

The closing date for representations to be made is Friday 3 November 2023.

Yours sincerely



David Kennedy
Chair, The Hoddesdon School Trust