



Community Inclusive Trust

Poplar Farm School

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11th May 2022

Consultation on Community Inclusive Trust (C.I.T) to become a Church MAT with Church of England Schools, Community Schools and Special Schools

Introduction

[Community Inclusive Trust \(C.I.T\)](#) is exploring the possibility of becoming a Church Multi-Academy Trust with the majority of the Members being appointed by the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education (LDBE).

For C.I.T to become a Church MAT in the diocese of Lincoln, the Trust would need to adopt model 'majority' Articles of Association approved by the Church of England and Department for Education. These articles would ensure that the Christian foundation of church schools entering C.I.T would be protected. It is important to note that the articles would also preserve the individual character and identity of existing schools within the Trust and any non-church schools considering joining C.I.T. In brief, this change in the articles would allow both church and non-church schools to join the trust, which C.I.T feels is in line with the recently released White Paper.

The decision for church schools entering the multi-academy trust (MAT) would rest with the Governing Board of the church school. In every case, the LDBE would need to give consent and C.I.T and the DfE would need to then approve church schools entering the Trust.

C.I.T would fully support the LDBE's requirement that every church school maintains a strong relationship with the Church and Diocese through the LDBE Service Level Agreement.

C.I.T would work collaboratively with other Church MATs in the diocese. There are currently four church MATs in the diocese, namely the [Lincoln Anglican Academies Trust](#), [the Abbey Academies Trust](#), [the Infinity Academies Trust](#) and [the St Lawrence Academies Trust](#). C.I.T would expect to become an equal stakeholder within the LDBE MAT strategy. It will support the LDBE to implement its M.A.T strategy and like other Church MATs provide support to schools of different sizes with varying levels of educational performance.

A Multi Academy Trust for:

GANF - Ambergate Sports College | GANF - Sandon School | Isaac Newton Primary School
SSS - The Garth School | SSS - The Priory School | Boston Endeavour Academy
Woodlands Academy | Poplar Farm Primary School | Caythorpe Primary School
Chapel St Leonards Primary School | Greenfields Academy | St Paul's Community Primary School and Nursery | Foxfields Academy | Bowman Academy | Linchfield Community Primary School | Bingham Primary School | LEARN Teaching Centre

CIT Academies is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England with the name Community Inclusive Trust. The company's registered number is 9071623.



National Support School
designated by



For church schools, C.I.T will be fully committed to the [Church of England Vision for Education](#), which already align closely to our own values centring on Trust, Respect, Outstanding Provision, Personalised Learning and Inclusivity.

C.I.T appreciates it is important for the LDBE to provide church schools with a good choice of 'majority' Church MATs. It is important that all Church Schools and all Church MATs are able to thrive and succeed in the future. Similarly, as a Trust, we see this step as advantageous. There are 141 Church of England Primary Schools across Greater Lincolnshire currently, some of whom have expressed an interest in furthering links with C.I.T. Becoming a Church Academy MAT has the potential to support the Trust's growth model, developing resources effectively in geographical clusters, which in turn further strengthens the support provided to existing and joining schools.

Consultation questions:

1. Do you think C.I.T should become a 'majority' Church MAT?
2. What positives do you see in this proposal?
3. What concerns do you have about this proposal?
4. **LA Schools and stand-alone Academies only:** Would your school value having C.I.T as one of the MAT options in the future (if approved as a Church MAT)? Please give reasons for your answer.
5. **Church MATs only:** Would you value C.I.T being a Church MAT in the diocese of Lincoln?

To leave your responses to this consultation, please use the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/kWPpkxQz4y>

Alternatively, you can email your feedback to: jacki.bartram@citacademies.co.uk

Or, you can post your feedback to: Jacki Bartram, C.I.T Academies, Helmsley Road, Grantham, NG31 8XF.

This consultation will commence on Wednesday 11th May and close on Tuesday 31st May 2022.

Thank you.



Daran Bland
Director of Governance & Operations
Community Inclusive Trust

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