St John Bosco Academy

Presentation
6 key areas:

- Why Change?
- What is a MAC?
- What are the main benefits to our schools in becoming a multi academy?
- What has changed?
- What remained the same?

Concluding statement
The future

"What do you mean 'it's a bit muddy'?"
Why Change?

• Local Authority support is dwindling in terms of quality and quantity

• Government policies including those which encompass Ofsted inspections etc are increasingly putting Catholic Education/schools at risk

In response to the first two points...

• The Archdiocese of Birmingham has formulated a multi academy model in the interests of the ‘common good’ and the future of Catholic education
What is a Multi Academy Company?

A group of Catholic schools each with Academy status, independent of the Local Authority, with one Board of Directors, but each having its own Academy Committee.
Our MAC

St. Chad’s Academy Committee

Board of Directors

Bishop Milner Academy Committee

St. Joseph’s Academy Committee
Operational matters

- Catholic life
- Implementation of policy
- Day-to-day
- Culture & traditions
- Parents – primary educators
- Church, priest, parish
- Relationships with other schools & partners
- Feedback and evidence of impact
- Evaluation of effectiveness of strategic framework

Strategic Framework

- Mission
- Vision
- Aims
- Objectives
- Policies
- Priorities
- Targets
- Plans
- Reviews progress
- Monitor & Evaluate
- Review overall effectiveness

Board of Directors

Academy Committee

Strategic Core Committees of Directors
Advantages - for our children

• Not just one school, being part of a wider Catholic community

• Enhanced opportunities for shared projects, events, activities, visits etc

• Older children could gain work experience and develop workplace skills in the other schools within the MAC

• Access to specialist teachers
Advantages - for our children...continued

• Opportunities to share resources e.g. sports facilities, dance and drama studios

• Excellence in primary practice can be transferred to secondary and vice versa

• The security of attending a school that is part of a strong cluster of three

• SECURING CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN DUDLEY FOR THE PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS......
Advantages - to further enhance each school

• Opportunities to jointly employ specialist staff e.g. business manager, social worker, attendance officer that we may not be able to afford on our own

• Opportunities to centralise some jobs that we are all completing in isolation at the moment meaning time is freed up to spend on work with children

• Purchasing power as a group of three best deals can be negotiated meaning our children have more for our money
Advantages— to further enhance each school...continued

• Improvement in school budgets to support staffing /resourcing and as a consequence the education of all our children

• We save 20% on all VATable purchases as we no longer have to pay VAT which brings us into line with all state schools

• We save 10% on all building projects as we no longer have to contribute 10% from school funds again this ensures a level playing field with other schools
Areas to work together

Spiritual Life

Safeguarding/Health & Safety

New Technologies

Community

Self-Evaluation

Teaching and Learning

Gaining Best Value
What has changed?

• Shared Governance ‘Board of Directors’ made up with representation from each school/other stakeholders whilst each school has its own ‘Academy Committee’.... all of which must be agreed to by the Archdiocese

• Shared vision underpinned by our individual identities

• Strategic formal commitment...working together is structured/binding
What has changed?...continued

• Strategic appointments could be made to work across our schools e.g. Y5 to Y8 strategies linked to Modern Languages

• Developing new approaches to: collaborative practice; distributed/collective leadership; team-work etc

• Ofsted judgements frozen with fresh start category at the next inspection
What remained the same?

• Each school retains its Catholic Ethos, mission, has its own name, identity, uniform etc

• The commitment to high academic/pastoral standards

• Parental representation by election to the Board of Directors and the Academy Committees along with appointments as Foundation representatives
What remained the same?...continued

• All staff continue to be employed on same terms and conditions and their pensions are protected

• School links with existing networks continue

• Ofsted – will still come...... and the same Headteachers will be in post!
Concluding statement:

From this presentation you will see that the formation of a MAC is a natural progression and secures for all, 'who we are' and 'what we are about'...

In essence the MAC:
1) builds upon the gains experienced in terms of teaching and learning linked to the raising of achievement...

2) enables us to achieve significant financial benefit...

3) and most important of all...it protects our Catholic identity!