



# Brownhills School

## A Specialist Sports College

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Dear Parents / Carers

As many of you will know, the school has been exploring potential partnership opportunities for some time now in order to keep improving the school. As one of only three local authority secondary schools in the borough, we feel that in order to secure long-term sustainability, and to ensure appropriate challenge and support for the school, we need to be part of a larger network of schools locally and nationally. Governors believe that becoming an academy with an existing multi academy trust (MAT), which is successful and ethical, is in the best interests of students, staff and the community at Brownhills School.

For most of the last two years since our successful Ofsted inspection we have held discussions with several academy sponsors who were interested in working with us because of what we could bring to an inclusive and vibrant family of schools. After much discussion and research, it became clear that there was one academy organisation with a successful base already in the West Midlands that strongly supported and reflected the values and ethos of our school and which we felt would help to take the school forward and retain the unique identity of Brownhills School.

At this early point of the process, we are unable to name our preferred option until the application process has been completed. Once this has been done, we will be engaging fully with parents/carers, students, staff and other stakeholders in the locality. When the time is right for us to move forward with the conversion, we will be inviting you into school to find out more about the process and the academy trust and to answer any questions you may have about the process.

We believe that working in partnership with a wider group of schools will enable us to:

- Provide a better quality of education for all students because of the support and challenge we will get from our partner schools and the organisation.
- Ensure the highest quality of training for all staff to continually improve performance and outcomes.
- Provide a wider range of enrichment activities for all students.
- Attract funding which will improve the site and facilities.

We will still be the same school, although we will have a much stronger and supportive structure around us. We will not be changing our uniform or our name other than to be known as Brownhills Academy with the sponsor's name added in. That will all be agreed through the consultation process.

We are very excited about this proposal and it is something we have wanted to do with the right academy sponsor for a number of years. As a result of these plans, Mrs Keenan will now stay on as Headteacher of Brownhills School and is looking forward to leading the school into an exciting new phase of development and improvement with the support of Governors and the sponsors. We will send you further updates when we have more news.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Helen Keenan  
Headteacher

Keith Parr  
Chair of Governors



**"Quality, care and excellence every step of the way"**