

Dear Parents/Carers

Many of you will know that in recent years, Edwinstree Middle School and Freman College have been working closely together, which has proved really beneficial. Over the last few years, Year 8 students have been taking part in a variety of lessons at Freman, which has been advantageous in preparing students for transition into Year 9. Shared network management has meant that we have been able to get better value for money in ICT purchasing and students arrive at Freman familiar with the platform and software which is used across both schools. There are lots of examples of how working together has been really positive.

As the Governors and Headteachers of our two schools feel that by continuing and developing this close working relationship, we can do even more for the benefit of students in the years to come, we would like to formalise the relationship by forming a Trust together. This will not result in any dramatic changes as the schools will continue to be two separate schools, just as they are now. We have no intention of changing the names of the schools, the uniforms, the Headteachers, the Governing Bodies and so on. Things will continue pretty much as they are. Edwinstree will remain a Church of England school, while Freman College will remain a non-faith school. The Diocese has been fully consulted and support our application.

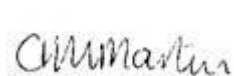
We will create a Board of Trustees who will oversee the work of both schools, making sure that they work together to make things as good as possible for students. The Board would work together on issues like the curriculum, teaching and learning, pastoral care, SEND support as well as getting value for money through joint purchasing. Ms Loughran will be the Executive Headteacher leading the Trust, working closely with Mrs Gant as Headteacher of Edwinstree and the Governing Bodies of both schools by continuing to build on the strong relationship the schools have forged.

Teachers and support staff will continue to work in their current roles, based in one school or the other. Staff from both schools will continue to work together and sometimes may be involved in planning or delivering the curriculum in the other school, as they have been doing for some time, but in general staff will continue to work solely in their own school.

We do not anticipate that parents and students will notice any change when the Trust is set up, which we hope will be in April 2021. We hope that over the years that follow, you will see even more of the positive benefits that this partnership will bring to the children of our local families.

If you have any questions or points you would like to raise about the Trust, we are running a Consultation from now until Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020. Please feel free to contact us at [admin@freman.org.uk](mailto:admin@freman.org.uk) or [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

**Yours sincerely**



**Mrs Jackie Martin**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**Freman College**



**Mr John Boulter**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**Edwinstree Middle School**