

9<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to keep you informed as we move towards the opening of the new Q3 Academy being built in Langley, Oldbury and to explain how this school will be linked with Q3 Academy Great Barr.

As the Sponsor of Q3 Academy Great Barr over time I have followed with interest the Government's plan to make all schools free schools or academies. As part of these plans there is positive encouragement for existing sponsors to create Multi Academy Trusts (M.A.T) whereby several schools in an area combine to have the benefits of experience, joint resources and economies through central administrative facilities.

When Sandwell M.B.C identified the need for new secondary schools to provide quality school places for a growing population, I submitted an expression of interest which was considered along with others.

The Q3 Academy Governors and Senior Management Team saw this as an opportunity to develop a MAT and we were delighted when Sandwell MBC and the Department of Education invited us to be involved with the building of a brand new school and be responsible for its operation within an enlarged Q3 'family'.

The present Single Academy Trust administering Q3 Academy Great Barr is being changed to a MAT which will be known as The Quaerere Academies Trust. Both Q3 Academy Great Barr and the new school which will be called Q3 Academy Langley will be administered by the new MAT. In respect of the day to day running of Q3 Academy Great Barr there will be little change. Each school will have its own Local Governing Body (LGB). We will be following the Department of Education guidelines and each school will have two elected Parent Governors. The present Q3 Academy Great Barr Governors will either remain in the LGB for Q3 Academy Great Barr or some may move to the LGB of Q3 Academy Langley to provide experience and help to develop the values, ethos and pursuit of excellence that are the drivers for a good education.

The MAT Governing Body will be constituted as a Board of Trustees and will include a number of existing Q3 Academy Great Barr Governors. At all times we will seek to have people who offer expertise in all fields of Education, Business and Community.

Continued overleaf...

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PRINCIPAL) Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH Q3 - QUAERERE | 'SEEK THAT WHICH IS GOOD, THAT WHICH IS RIGHT, THAT WHICH IS TRUE'



Dr Caroline Badyal Principal at Q3 Academy Great Barr will be taking on the new role of Chief Executive and lead a team responsible for the operation of both schools. Mr Mark Arnall Vice Principal at Q3 Academy Great Barr will become Head of School from September 2016.

Q3 Academy Langley will open its first phase in September 2016 with an intake of 153 Year 7 students. The school will grow with an intake of 240 Year 7 students in 2017 and this will continue thereafter until its planned capacity of 1500 students from Years 7 to 14 is reached. Mr Peter Lee has been appointed as Head of School with responsibility for the operation and development of Q3 Academy Langley.

There are many advantages of a MAT and some of the benefits are:

- A greater opportunity to recruit and retain quality teaching staff and to offer them a wider choice of career development within the MAT;
- Best Practice can be developed and tried in each school for the benefit of all;
- Interaction with students of each school will be developed;
- Financial benefits through economies of scale and synergies will provide more cash for direct expenditure on teaching and learning. In this connection I would mention that we have negotiated extra funding arrangements for Q3 Academy Langley to cover their start-up costs during the initial years. Funding will be separately devolved to each Academy and as now will be set by Pupil Number and formula determined by the Department of Education.

The record of excellence developed at Q3 Academy Great Barr is greatly praised. This will be maintained and I am pleased that our expertise will now be made available to a new generation of students in Sandwell.

Together we can continue to deliver high outcomes and the best opportunities for your children.

Yours sincerely



Mr Eric Payne OBE  
Sponsor

