

The Saints' Federation



St Peter's C.E. (A) First School	All Saints' C.E. (C) First School	St Augustine's CE (C) First School
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GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

March 2018

Federation becomes part of Staffordshire University Academies Trust – 1st April 2018

Not a catchy title, perhaps, but a very significant moment in the developing history of our three schools. On 1st April 2018, St Peter's Alton, All Saints Denstone and St Augustine's Draycott will become part of the Staffordshire University Academies Trust (SUAT). The intention is that the change should be seamless and painless. The changes are primarily going to be in the governance and administration of the Federation. Most of the functions hitherto carried out by the Local Authority will now be undertaken by SUAT. The LA will still retain responsibility for SEND, admissions and transport but all other responsibilities including finance will pass over to SUAT.

Although each school is registered at SUAT separately, we will still operate as a Federation just as we have done for the last two and a half years. There will be no changes in staffing, including the roles of Miss Robson and Mrs Walker, our Executive Co Head teachers. Pupils and parents will notice little difference to the present service on offer – it will be a case of 'business as usual'. What happens in the classroom will be unaffected.

There will, over time, be some slight changes in administration and governance but these will occur gradually and as the need arises. For example, the names of each of our schools will change slightly to reflect their status as part of SUAT whilst still emphasising their Christian character. St Peter's will become known as St Peter's CE Academy Alton; All Saints becomes All Saints CE Academy Denstone; and St Augustine's becomes St Augustine's CE Academy. In time, each school's logo will be changed to reflect their new names but this will be a gradual process.

The governing board will also have a different title. It will become known as a Local Academy Council (LAC). The composition of the Local Academy Council will be similar to our current governing body, with representatives from staff, parents and nominees from the Church to reflect the religious nature of all three schools. There will need to be fresh elections for the various category of governor but these are not likely to take place until Autumn 2018. The responsibilities of the LAC will be substantially similar to that of the governors at the moment with one significant exception – finance. Responsibility for financial control passes to SUAT but LAC members will have the same responsibilities for staffing and standards as at present.

Many staff and governors have already experienced the professional and positive support of SUAT through training and meetings. We are all excited at the prospect of being part of this highly respected Multi-Academy Trust.

50 things to do before you're 9

What a brilliant idea! This project was launched in all three schools at the start of this half term and already pupils have experienced some unusual and inspiring events ranging from Samba Drumming to First Aid to Theatre visits. Below are photographs of some of these activities.



Each school has a display specially for this scheme so next time you're in your school, have a look to see what the children have been up to. It'll make you want to go back to school again!! The

displays can be found in the entrance hall of each school.



Samba Drumming at All Saints



Getting up close to a mini-beast!



Learning circus skills and a trip to the theatre.



First Aid essentials – learning how to save lives.

Mrs Shirley Swift

The end of this term sees the retirement of Mrs Shirley Swift from the staff of All Saints. She has taught at the school for an incredible eighteen years, during which time she will have had many pupils in her charge. As well as class teaching, Mrs Swift has developed the PE and Games aspects of the curriculum which has been her great love. We wish her well in her retirement and thank her for her many years' service.

On behalf of the governors and staff of our Federation, I wish you a peaceful and blessed Easter.

Terry Davies, Chair of Governors.