



Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust: Brookside Infants School

Outcome requested:	Council is asked to approve the incorporation of Brookside Infants School into the Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust and to note that discussions are currently underway regarding the possible addition of Pyrgo Priory Academy.
Executive Summary:	QMUL and the Drapers' Company have co-sponsored the Drapers' Academy in Harold Hill since 2010 and the Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust since 2014. The incorporation of Brookside Infants School into the Multi-Academy Trust would be consistent with the Trust's strategy to offer all stages of primary and secondary education. There is no additional risk or financial impact for QMUL arising from this proposal.
QMUL Strategy: strategic aim reference and sub-strategies	Strategic Aim 5: to achieve maximum impact from our academic work through public engagement and partnerships with businesses, government, charities, cultural organisations, and others in the wider community.
Internal/External regulatory/statutory reference points:	Legislative framework supporting the establishment of academies and free schools.
Strategic Risks:	8 – Commitment to public engagement.
Equality Impact Assessment:	The proposal is to support and improve the attainment of all children at Brookside Infants School.
Subject to prior and onward consideration by:	QMSE on 26 January 2016. The recommendation was approved by the Drapers' Court in December 2015.
Confidential paper under FOIA/DPA	No
Timing:	It is the intention that Brookside Infants School will be incorporated into the Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust by February 2016.
Author:	Sian Marshall, Assistant Registrar (Council and Governance)
Date:	21 January 2016
Senior Management/External Sponsor:	Professor Morag Shiach, Vice-Principal and Executive Dean (Humanities and Social Sciences); Jonathan Morgan, Academic Registrar and Council Secretary

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1. The Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) is seeking approval from Council to incorporate Brookside Infants School. The Drapers' Court approved a similar resolution in December 2015.
2. Brookside Infants School is a two-form entry, Local Authority maintained school situated on Harold Hill in the London Borough of Havering. It has 240 pupils aged 3–11, including 60 part time nursery places, and received an Ofsted rating of 'good' at its last inspection in February 2014. The Infants School shares a site with the Junior School, which converted to a Sponsored Academy with the MAT on 1 July 2014. The Infants and Junior Schools have a range of shared facilities, such as the car park, entrance gate and playing fields. The Head teacher of the Infants School, Angela Winch, has been employed as the Executive Principal of the Junior School since September 2014.
3. The Infants School is seeking academy status in line with Government policy and in recognition of the opportunities that greater alignment of resources with the Junior School would bring. The incorporation of the Infants School into the MAT would be consistent with the Trust's strategy to offer all stages of primary and secondary education.
4. It is the intention that the existing governance structures of the MAT would continue with the incorporation of the Infants School, including the establishment of a dedicated Local Governing Body reporting to the Board of Directors of the MAT. The MAT operates a shared services model whereby all back office functions are performed by a central team under a formal service level agreement.
5. There is no additional risk for QMUL associated with the expansion of the MAT; QMUL does not provide any funding for the Trust and the reputational risk is considered to be low. There is no financial impact for QMUL, beyond a continued commitment to high-quality and sustained outreach activities in support of this initiative.
6. Discussions are currently underway regarding the possible addition of Pyrgo Priory Academy to the MAT. Pyrgo is also located on Harold Hill and caters for children from ages 3–11.
7. Council is asked to **approve** the incorporation of Brookside Infants School into the Drapers' Multi-Academy Trust and to **note** that discussions are currently underway regarding the possible addition of Pyrgo Priory Academy.