



Herts for Learning Ltd is a not for profit company owned by Hertfordshire schools and the local authority. Providing achievement and business services, it is dedicated to improving standards of education in Hertfordshire and beyond.

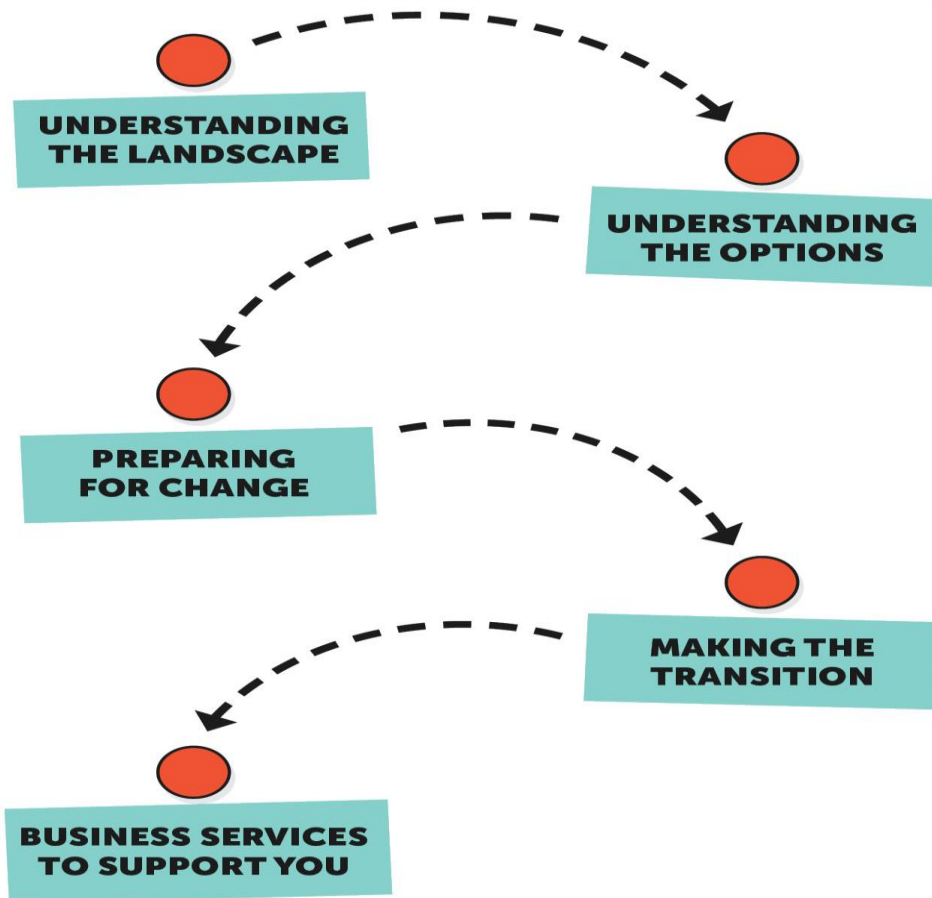


**THE BUSINESS  
OF EDUCATION**

# Understanding the landscape

## An overview

## Multi Academy Trust Transition and support services



The progression towards being a fully functional MAT is a complex journey.

Establishing MATs require different support, information and services depending upon your stage on this journey..

# Educational Excellence Everywhere

The White Paper confirms the government's proposed strategy that, where required to do so, all schools should be converted to academy status, or in the process of converting, by the end of 2020.

It also suggests that the majority of these work in Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) in order to pool staff and resources; further increasing the expertise and performance at a local level.

# DfE approach

Sept 2016 – ‘we will’:

Encourage multi-academy trusts to select within their trust. We will make clear that multi-academy trusts and/or other good or outstanding academies can already establish a single centre in which to educate their "most able" pupils. This centre could be ‘virtual’ or have a physical location.

This would enable the schools to provide a more challenging and targeted curriculum, and to create an ethos within the centre of excellence which supports all children to achieve their potential. These proposals complement our wider approach to school improvement and our drive to build capacity in the system through multi-academy trusts.

# Benefits of a Multi Academy Trust

- Reduces work / foci on non-teaching and learning issues
- Enhanced, practical partnerships that benefit pupils, parents and the wider community
- Ability to provide career development and progression within a group of schools 'grow your own talent
- Established MATs report positive impact for recruitment and retention of staff
- Business efficiencies in the light of financial pressures
- Internal resources that meet need across a number of schools (not just business – pupil and family facing)
- Clear branding and marketing – appealing to parents and to staff

# Options in Hertfordshire

- Single Academy Trust (SAT)
- Multi Academy Trust (MAT)
  - National chain
  - Local partnership
    - Phase based
    - Geographically based
  - Faith MAT
  - HfL MAT



# MAT is a collective noun

All MATs offer some centralised services, but these differ greatly

Most MATs use a top slice to cover centralised services; these vary according to the size and depth of centralisation

MAT structures vary:

- Some have a large central team

- Some standardise business procedures; some teaching and learning practices

MATs are all different sizes and have different visions for growth

Your choices will depend upon your size, OfSTED / financial status and whether or not you are a faith school.





# HfL services

Herts for Learning will continue to offer high quality support, training and guidance for all schools whether they are:

- A maintained school
- A Single Academy Trust
- A Church of England Multi Academy Trust
- A Catholic Academy Trust
- In the HfL Multi Academy Trust
- In another Multi Academy Trust
- In all geographical areas

# Further support

Herts for Learning provides support, information and services for all stages of the MAT journey and tailored for school leaders and governors.

If you would like further:

- Consultancy
- Facilitation workshops in your school/with a group of schools
- Training (conferences, courses)
- Guidance

On the options, implications and decisions for your schools please visit:

[www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/MATS](http://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/MATS)



# Contact us

For further information on the support available, and to view all Herts for Learning MAT services, please visit <http://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/mats>, email [business.matters@hertsforlearning.co.uk](mailto:business.matters@hertsforlearning.co.uk) or call 01438 845111.