Ref: RM/JF/efr

Date: 24th January 2022

c/o Brine Leas School Audlem Road Nantwich Cheshire CW5 7DY Tel: 01270 625663

Email: clerk@brinemat.co.uk

Richard Middlebrook, Chief Executive Officer

Dear Brine MAT Parent or Carer and Community Stakeholder

For the last 18 months, Directors from Brine MAT and Mr Richard Middlebrook (Interim CEO) have been working closely with representatives from Alsager MAT (AMAT) with regards to a possible 'merger' of the two organisations.

AMAT, consisting of Alsager School, Alsager Highfields Primary and Weston Village Primary schools, is very similar to Brine MAT and there is considerable synergy between the two Trusts. By becoming one organisation, it will mean we will remain as a local Trust with much more capacity and expertise to support our young people, create opportunities for staff and raise standards at all five schools even further.

At a meeting on 6/12/21, and after a thorough and robust due diligence process, Brine MAT Directors voted to proceed to the next stage of this potential merger. The next stage involves informing, and if necessary, consulting with all key stakeholders, staff, parents, pupils, local governing bodies, trade unions and the community. To help with this process, we have attached a list of FAQ's about Academy transfers and mergers.

The key points for your information are as it is the more 'mature' Trust, we will be using AMAT as the 'the shell' or 'transferee' which Brine MAT will join as the 'transferor'. If the merger goes ahead, the merged Trust will be called 'The 3 Shires Trust' and Brine MAT will cease to exist when the new Trust opens (currently planned for 1/9/22). However, the scheme of delegation will remain as it is now under Brine MAT, namely while the CEO and Directors have overall accountability for the Trust, responsibility for the leadership and management of each school will be delegated to the headteachers and local governing bodies at each school. For example, the names, individuality and uniform for the individual schools will be unaffected by this and will remain a decision for the individual Headteachers and local governing bodies.

The window for this information sharing period will run from Monday 24/1/22 to Monday 28/2/22. This will be the opportunity to ask any questions about this proposed merger and make any representations which the Directors would consider before their final vote on whether to proceed. This vote is scheduled to take place on 28/3/22. You can email guestions or make any representations on this planned transfer using the address clerk@brinemat.co.uk

Similarly, if you would like to express an interest in being considered for a position on the Board for the merged 3 Shires Trust, please use the same e mail address and briefly outline your relevant skills and experience.

In addition, we will be holding an optional socially distanced face to face Q&A session in the main hall at Brine Leas School starting at 5:00pm on 27/1/22. Please understand that attending this event is not in any way compulsory, as all your questions may be answered by the attached.

Yours faithfully

Janet Furber

Chair of Directors (Brine MAT)

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Richard Middlebrook Interim CEO (Brine MAT)

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