

**Eggbuckland Community College Academy Trust  
and Austin Farm Academy  
(ECCAT)**

**Timeline for the potential merger with the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST)**

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
ECCAT Improvement Plan (published September 2019 and 2020) shares the Trustee vision to enjoy the benefits of joining a larger MAT.	September 2019 and 2020.
Trustees consider options for proposed merger with another MAT. Three MATs investigated and meetings with each held. Due diligence assured.	Spring and Autumn term 2020 informal meetings with: Teaching Schools Academy Trust (TSAT) / WeST / Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT) Formal meetings held 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 TSAT 21 <sup>st</sup> October WeST 4 <sup>th</sup> November GLT
Trustees selected one MAT to pursue. This is WeST. Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) and the Headteachers' Board (HTB) agree that WeST has both the history of school improvement and the capacity to support ECCAT.	18 <sup>th</sup> November 2020. Minutes taken 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2021  25 <sup>th</sup> February 2021  17 <sup>th</sup> March minutes
Letter issued to Union representatives to notify of proposed merger with WeST	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Consultation meeting with staff, led by Wendy Cavell, Chair of Trustees and Rob Haring, CEO of WeST – questions invited in advance	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021 – Teams meeting
Trustees agreement to formally approach WeST to merge/transfer. This was done post RSC support, and post staff consultation on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> March.	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March after the staff consultation.
Meeting with Unions representatives, Matthew Corrigan, Wendy Cavell (Chair of Trustees ECCAT), Rob Haring (CEO of WeST)	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April, at 11:45am (MS Teams)
Letters to all ECCAT staff and Union reps to begin formal 3 week consultation period – together with rationale document and timeline.  Consultation website open	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2021

Letters to parents/carers to inform them of consultation process underway.  Open the consultation website for parents	Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021  Online parent consultation starts 3 <sup>rd</sup> May and ends 20 <sup>th</sup> May  Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May, at 5:30 to 6pm (MS Teams)
Trustees to meet to discuss the initial first week of consultation.	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Consultation period ends	10am, Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
Trustees to consider questions/statements from the consultation period	Week starting 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Formal decision made by Trustees about supporting the merger / extending the consultation / aborting the merger.	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
Half term break	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Letters to all Trust staff with final decision (or date of extension to consultation)	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Letters to all other stakeholders to confirm outcome of consultation	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Proposed transfer date if Trustees confirm the merger will go ahead.	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2021