



**Unity Church of England
Multi Academy Trust**

Friday 15th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to update you as to the future site arrangements for Great Barford Primary.

Much work has been carried out between the school, DFE and the Local Authority looking at the campus and the related costs involved in running two buildings. Although it is predicted that the school numbers will increase within the next 5 years we will, in the meantime, have a considerable number of empty classrooms across the two sites that will require cleaning, heating and maintenance.

The current Primary school site does not have the capacity and facilities to accommodate the number of children in the primary school, especially with growth in mind. It therefore makes practical, financial and logistical sense to move all teaching and resources onto the current Alban Academy Site and cease use of the current Great Barford Primary Academy site.

The Trust is working closely with both schools, the Diocese and the Borough Council to ensure that the necessary redevelopment and transition works to either site do not impact on the education experience for staff and pupils at the schools. Given this need for stability in the education environment, the timescales for any building works have yet to be agreed and once decided will be published.

Using the two-tier conversion funding provided by Bedford Borough Council and money obtained from various grants, we will be able to convert the Alban Academy site into a Primary School offering specialist Early Years and key stage 1 facilities whilst retaining specialist teaching areas for key stage 2, such as the science labs, art, food technology and textile rooms as well as the music suite.

In addition, we hope to develop services with our partners on the school campus to enrich education in Great Barford for children, families and the community.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Unity MAT Board

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