



**Rt Hon Justine Greening MP**  
Secretary of State

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Codsall Multi-Academy Trust  
c/o St Nicholas CofE (C) First School  
Belvide Gardens  
Chillington Drive  
Codsall  
Wolverhampton  
WV8 1AN

29 September 2016

To: Codsall Multi-Academy Trust

I am pleased to tell you that I have agreed to enter into a Funding Agreement with you to allow St Nicholas CofE (C) First School to convert into an academy. My officials will forward a copy of the executed Funding Agreement to you.

Academies form an integral part of the Government's education policy to raise attainment for all children. I am delighted that St Nicholas CofE (C) First School recognises the benefits academy status will bring.

The date of conversion, when the school will open as an academy, will be 1 October 2016. I am writing to Staffordshire County Council to instruct it to cease to maintain St Nicholas CofE (C) First School from that date.

If you have notified the Department of any additional leases or subleases the academy trust wishes to grant on conversion, these will also require the consent of the Secretary of State (according to the terms of both the Funding Agreement and the relevant legislation), and we will shortly write separately in relation to this.

Your academy will now have the opportunity to use the freedoms and flexibilities of academy status to share best practice and work with others to bring about sustained improvements to all schools in the area. I would like to thank you for your commitment and wish you every success in the future.

I attach a copy of my letter to the chair of governors of St Nicholas CofE (C) First School and a copy of my letter to the local authority.

RT HON JUSTINE GREENING MP