

What Are Your Primary Options?

In light of the recent Government announcement that all Primary Schools must form or join an Academy Chain by 2022 and have a 'Conversion Plan' in place by 2020, many schools are asking what these changes will mean to them.

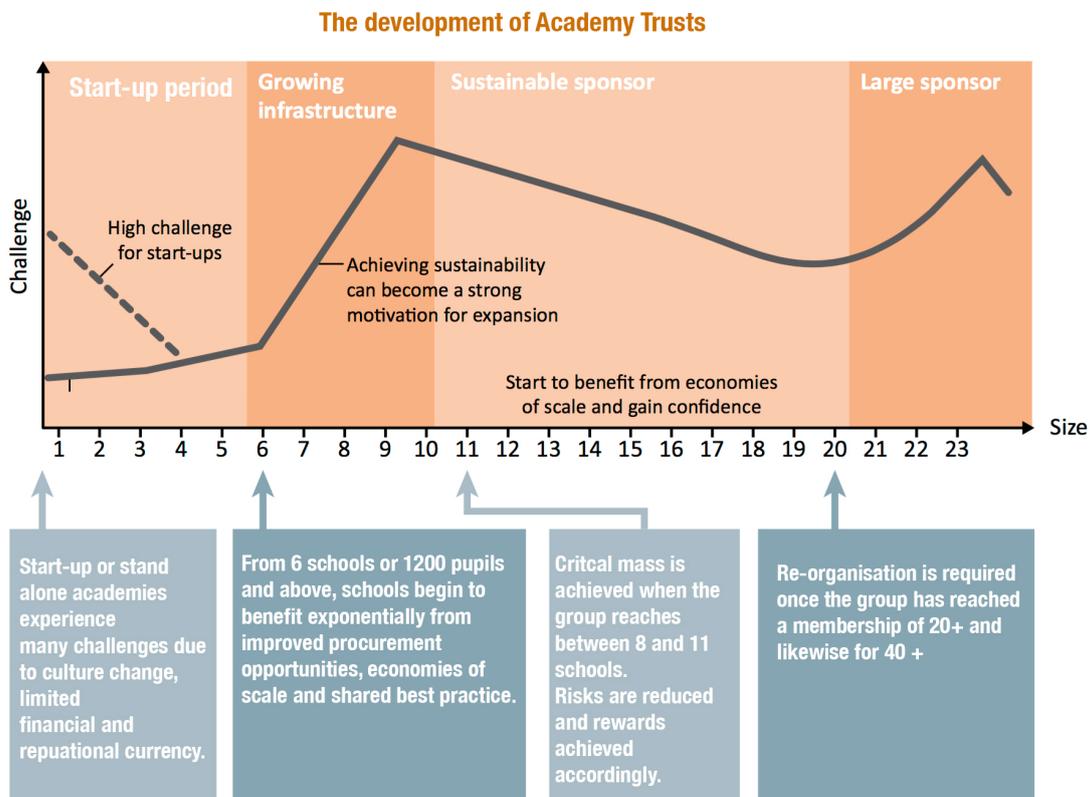
Cube Building Consultancy, in conjunction with their solicitor partners, are discussing with schools, the various options available and assisting them with forming a strategy to meet their specific needs.

Together both parties bring experience and expertise to ensure that in partnership with schools, these options are appraised and the best outcome secured.

The solicitors have acted on behalf of numerous schools in the region, whether converting as stand alone academies or as part of a wider Multi Academy Trust.

Cube act for many schools providing strategic advice, area analysis and preparing and submitting funding applications and have secured over £5 Million for Bedfordshire Schools.

Together they can provide expert sector advice in these challenging times.



How is your school currently faring? The options available to each school depend on both internal and external factors.

Together we can evaluate the choices before determining the most appropriate strategy for securing the best outcome for your school.

Decisions such as whether to form or join an existing chain?

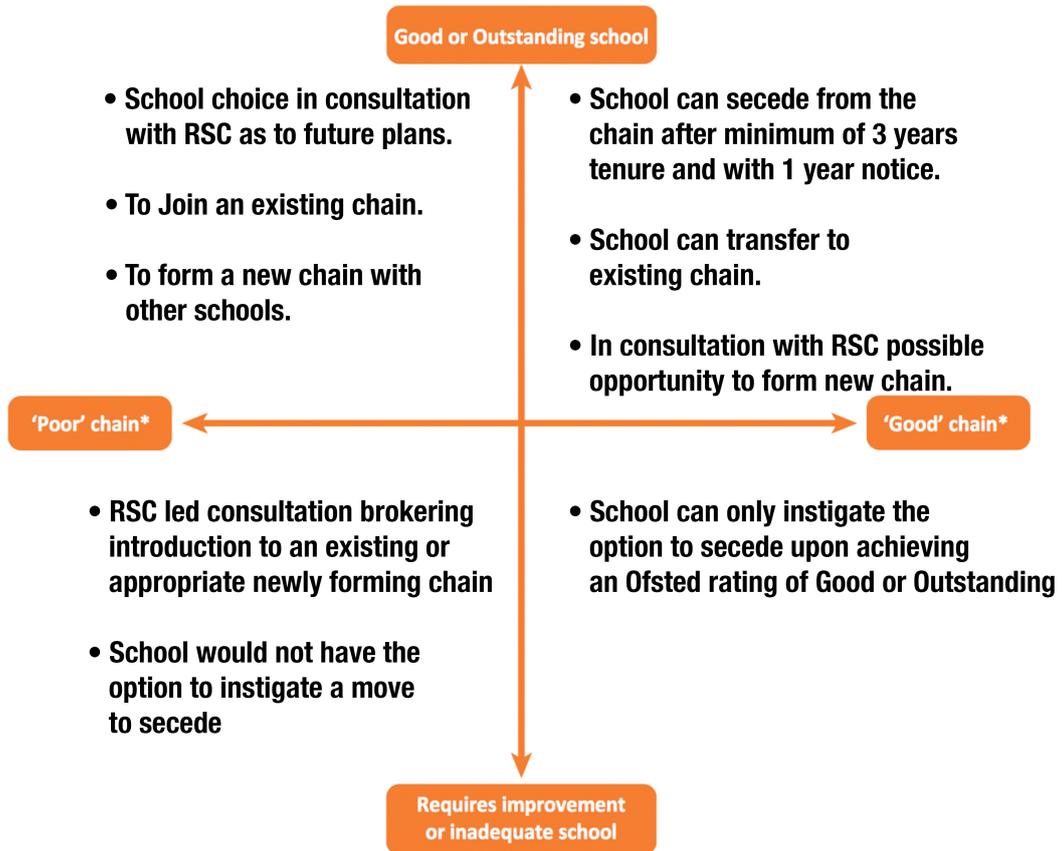
Whether to partner with other Primary Schools alone or with those within a local pyramid?

What is the process and who leads it?

How long does it take to convert?

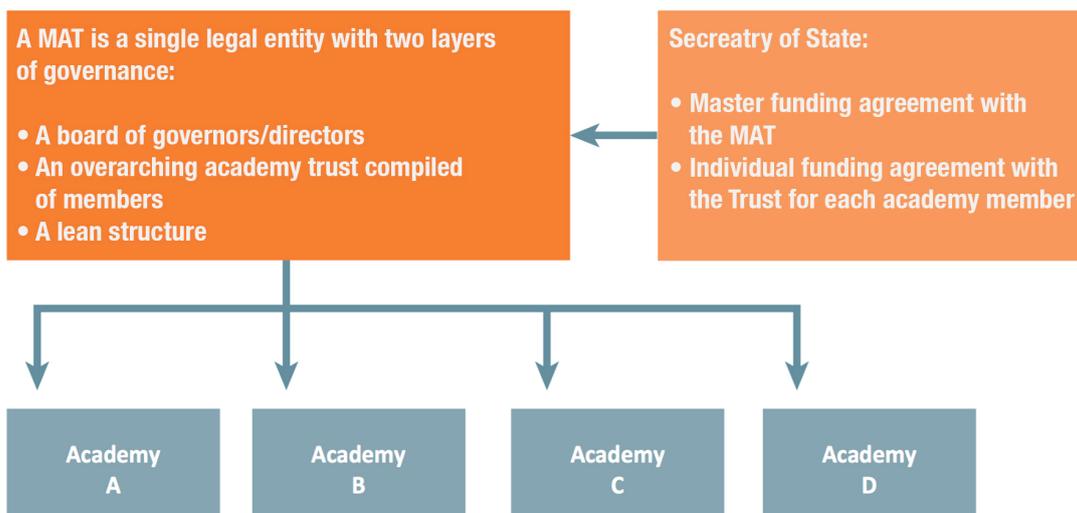
Is it in my schools best interest to go sooner or later?

The greater a school's financial security the wider its Trust options



There are a number of Trust options. Form your own Trust. Join an existing Trust. What sort of governance arrangements suit your particular requirements? There are advantages and disadvantages of selecting the MAT option. We would work through the range of options and asses which are the most appropriate and match your own values and individual needs.

The structure of a Multi Academy Trust

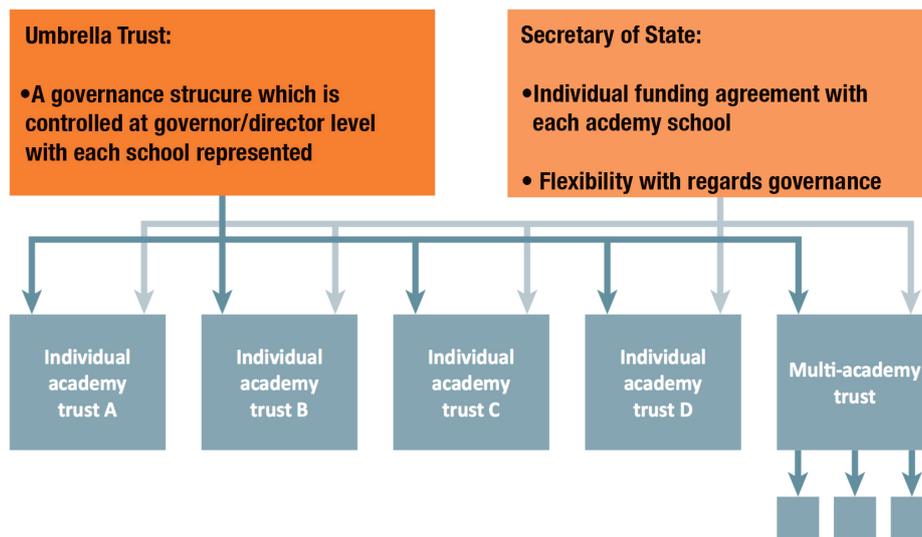


The academy trust could establish a local governing body for each academy and appoint the members of it and the level of delegated powers. Alternatively, the academy trust could choose to set up an advisory body with no delegated powers, which reports to the academy trust's governing body. The question is how much autonomy does each school require?

The Umbrella Trust has previously been adopted by those schools with Good or Outstanding Ofsted ratings, can evidence financial stability and who wish to retain as much autonomy as possible.

However, if a school can influence the governance structure of a Trust in its formation it can still achieve the same level of autonomy as that afforded by the Umbrella option.

The structure of an Umbrella Trust



Each individual or MAT is a single legal entity with an individual funding agreement with the Secretary of State. The members and governors are appointed by the umbrella trust, which can choose to have minority or majority control according to how well a school is performing.

Each school needs to play to its individual strengths and ensure its best interests are protected as it seeks entry with or to a MAT.

We will work with you and the Regional Schools Commissioner to ensure we broker the model that best fits your aspirations for the future development of your school.

- Contact us to arrange a confidential fee free consultation.
- Strategic Advice on the options available
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Due diligence ahead of land and asset transfer.
- Employment, HR, Pensions
- Governance and Governor Training
- Estate Management and funding Opportunities