

Monday 20th January 2025

Dear Students, Staff, Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Update on the merger of The STAR Multi-Academy Trust and South York Multi-Academy Trust

In November we wrote to staff, parents, stakeholders and the wider community with regard the proposed merger of our two organisations. That communication also opened an engagement and interaction period to seek feedback on our proposal and answer any initial queries.

Thank you to the hundreds of individuals who provided feedback, attended meetings and sent in queries. You can read a copy of our Engagement Report here: <https://web.starmat.uk/mat-merger/>.

Both STAR and SYMAT Trust Boards have now reviewed all the feedback and held meetings to further discuss the proposed merger in detail.

We are delighted to confirm that both Trust Boards have voted unanimously to proceed and an application has now been made to the DfE for their consideration. Once approved our intention is that our new Trust, Yorkshire Learning Trust (YLT) will be formed in Autumn 2025.

Over the coming few months we will continue to progress our plans, including liaison with stakeholders at all levels, as we further design our new Trust. Our intention is to utilise all of the detailed feedback we have received to ensure our new Trust exceeds even the combined successes of STAR and SYMAT. Watch out for more news to follow.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Yapp
CEO
The STAR Multi-Academy Trust

Nick Sheppard
Chair of Trustees
The STAR Multi-Academy Trust

Steve Lewis
CEO
South York Multi-Academy Trust

Ian Dolben
Chair of Trustees
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