Wood Green Academy
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

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Headteacher: Mr J.Topham B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc., NPQH

21st September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to share with you an important update regarding Wood Green Academy. As a school, we have a strong reputation for collaboration with other schools, both locally and nationally. Over recent years, this work has brought us into close partnership with STEP Academy Trust, a well-established and highly regarded multi-academy trust with a proven track record of supporting schools to achieve excellence. Through this partnership, we have identified significant shared values and a mutual commitment to improving the life chances of all children and young people.

Many of you will recall that the school undertook a listening period regarding joining STEP Academy Trust during Spring 2025. The feedback received from parents, carers, staff, students and other stakeholders was overwhelmingly positive and demonstrated strong support for exploring this opportunity further. However, since that time, many new families have joined our school community and we believe it is essential that they are also given the opportunity to understand the proposal, ask questions and share their views.

Following continued discussions and due diligence, the Governing Body remains firmly of the view that joining STEP Academy Trust would be in the best interests of our students and would provide opportunities to strengthen the excellent work already taking place at Wood Green Academy. However, before any final decision is made, we are committed to undertaking a further listening and engagement period to ensure all stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute.

To gather your views and address any questions, we have created a feedback form, which can be accessed here: **Wood Green Academy proposal to join STEP - Listening Period Response Form 2026 – Fill in form**

The form will close at **12pm on Friday, 23rd October 2026.**

To help answer any initial questions you may have, we have attached a document containing responses to frequently asked questions. We will also be holding a virtual information session on **30th September** at **5.00pm**, where representatives from both Wood Green Academy and STEP Academy Trust will provide further information and respond to questions. Please register **here** by **3pm on 29th September 2026** if you wish to attend**.**

While we encourage all parents and carers to share their thoughts, we understand that some may not have any specific questions or concerns. In such cases, a nil response will be considered as broadly supportive of the proposal.

Thank you for your continued support and for taking the time to engage with this important process.

Many thanks,

Mr J Topham
Headteacher

Frequently Asked Questions

What is STEP Academy Trust?
STEP (Striving Together for Excellence in Partnership) Academy Trust is a multi-academy trust that supports schools to achieve high standards of education through collaboration and shared expertise.

Why has the Governing Body decided to join STEP Academy Trust?
The decision was made to provide our school with greater opportunities to collaborate with other schools, access additional resources, and ensure long-term sustainability and growth.

What are the benefits of joining STEP Academy Trust?
Joining the Trust will allow us to:

- Access a wider network of educational expertise.
- Share resources and best practices with other schools.
- Enhance professional development opportunities for our staff.
- Strengthen leadership and governance support.

Will this change the day-to-day running of the school?
No significant changes to the daily operation of the school are expected. Students will continue to be taught by the same staff, and our school will retain its unique identity and ethos.

Will the school's name or uniform change?
There are no immediate plans to change the school's name or uniform. Our school logo will be updated to reflect that we are now part of the Trust.

Will there be any changes to the curriculum?
The curriculum will continue to meet the needs of our students and comply with national standards. Joining STEP Academy Trust will enhance our curriculum through shared resources and expertise.

How will this decision impact staff?
Staff would be employed by STEP and as a result they will be able to benefit from increased opportunities for training, development, and collaboration across the Trust

How will this decision be monitored?
The Trust's governance structure includes robust mechanisms to monitor and support the performance of all its schools. This will ensure that our school continues to thrive.

What happens next?
The transition to joining STEP Academy Trust will be carefully managed. The Governing Body will work closely with the Trust to ensure a smooth process, with regular updates provided to parents and carers.

Who can I contact for more information? If you have further questions, you can attend the online information session on Wednesday 30th September at 5.00pm.
Wood Green Academy proposal to join STEP - Parent Virtual Information Session – Fill in form