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💻 [www.duchyacademy.co.uk](http://www.duchyacademy.co.uk)

24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## **Consultation on the transfer of The Duchy Trust schools into An Daras Trust**

The Trustees of the Duchy Trust, Callington and An Daras Trust, Launceston are consulting with stakeholders, the wider community and partner organisation's on a proposal for the three schools currently within the Duchy Trust to transfer into the larger eight school An Daras Trust based in Launceston but operating schools in both Cornwall and Devon.

Duchy Trust has been in existence since 2014 and consists of Callington Primary, Boyton Primary and Lewannick Primary. An Daras Trust, has been in existence since 2014 and operates eight primary schools.

The Trustees of both Trusts are consulting at this formative stage and the five-week consultation window will conclude prior to any final decision being taken.

Trustees at both organisations agree that the proposal - after a recent successful 12-month period of close collaboration - being considered is very much in the best long-term interests of both Trusts, their respective communities and the pupils and parents who attend Trust schools currently and well into the future.

Trustees believe the existing vision and values promoted by both Trusts are closely aligned and demonstrate a shared aspiration for current and future educational achievement within the wider Launceston and Callington areas.

The proposal is outlined in brief below:

- Callington Primary, Boyton Primary and Lewannick Primary transfer into An Daras in full, becoming an integrated hub group within the existing An Daras Trust school structure
- All Duchy Trust assets, staff and premises would transfer into An Daras Trust from the proposed transfer date of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024
- Duchy Trust as a charitable trust company would be formally dissolved six months after the transfer is completed
- An Daras Trust would expand from its current eight schools to eleven with the incorporation of the Duchy schools into its existing hub structure
- An Daras Trustees and leaders would assume all key responsibilities and accountabilities for the successful operation of the former Duchy schools from the date of transfer

Trustees of both organisations have identified clear educational, financial, governance and structural benefits from formalising the existing collaborative working partnership;

- Close geographical proximity of the schools within both Trusts offers excellent opportunities for peer to peer school improvement and collaboration as part of a self-improving system
- Effective and extensive school improvement capacity available within An Daras will add value to the existing Duchy schools

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- Opportunities for extensive pupil learning collaboration are enhanced for all schools within a single larger An Daras grouping
- More effective and cost-effective staff training and CPD opportunities and facilities will be available to all members of the expanded An Daras Trust
- Economies of scale for procurement and service level agreements will support improvements in achieving financial best value
- Combined resources and curriculum expertise in place at both existing Trusts can be used to improve the quality of all children's educational experience consistently across a wider group of schools
- Existing capacity in strategic governance can be used to safeguard the future success for all schools within the expanded Trust
- Consistent and effective practice will support improved quality of education for pupils with specific needs and those disadvantaged
- Development of an effective curriculum package is enabled due to a wider range of staff knowledge and experience being accessible by the single larger Trust
- Staff career progression widened due to a wider variety of internal opportunities becoming available over time
- Easier to ensure short term staff shortages can be adequately covered

On the website for each Trust you can access further information regarding the proposal:

**An Daras Trust** – <https://andaras.eschools.co.uk/web>

**The Duchy Academy Trust** - <https://www.duchyacademy.co.uk/>

If you are a stakeholder in any of the schools or either trust, a member of the local community or a neighboring or existing external partner to either Trust then your feedback on the proposal would be useful to the Trustees. The consultation closes at midnight on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Please use heading or subject line '**Trust Consultation**' as the subject line or heading in any communication related to this proposal. Also include your context or relationship to either Trust.

You can respond via email to: [admin@andaras.org](mailto:admin@andaras.org)

In writing posted to:

*An Daras Trust Central Office,*  
**Consultation Response,**  
Unit 4 Tamar Business Park,  
Pennygillam Way,  
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