



FAQs on Academy status

1. Why go for this change? / What freedoms will academy status bring?
This is an opportunity for the school to take a lead and potentially to influence educational policy and direction for the direct benefit of WGGs students. It is an opportunity to develop new collaborations, to procure services more effectively, and to manage new projects without being hindered by unreasonable bureaucracy.
2. Will the name of the school change?
No.
3. Will there be a company sponsoring the school?
No. Unlike some Type 1 academies (such as Bushy Hall & Francis Coombe), there are no additional external organisations involved in the conversion, financial or otherwise.
4. Is there a financial benefit for the school?
The school would receive direct funding for the proportion of Government grant held back by County and currently used to provide centrally procured services. (This is commonly known as the top slice). As we buy very few services from the LA, this top slice element should provide additional funding for the school - details of exact sums are still under negotiation at the DfE.
5. Will the uniform change?
No
6. Will there be staff changes?
No changes will take place that were not being contemplated regardless of Academy status.
7. What if we don't do this?
Essentially the response is the same as number 1. If we don't take this opportunity, we lose the chance to take a lead and potentially to influence educational policy and direction for the direct benefit of WGGs students. If we don't take this opportunity, we risk remaining under the influence of a LA weakened by those that have made the move.
8. Which schools are eligible for this?
Currently only schools with an Outstanding rating from OFSTED
9. Will it affect SEN funding?
No. SEN funding will operate in the same way.
10. Will the admission rules change?
We are still bound to follow the same Code of Practice; the only changes are those that the Code allows. We have no plans to change any part of our admission criteria under the current Code.

Further information: <http://www.education.gov.uk/academies/faqs>

