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North Warwickshire &
South Leicestershire College
Hinckley Road
Nuneaton
CV11 6BH

0330 058 3000

info@midlandat.co.uk

www.midlandat.co.uk

Chief Executive Officer:
Marion Plant OBE FCGI

Dear Parent/Carer

Update on the Transfer of the Midland Academies Trust schools to United Learning

I am writing to provide an update on the transfer of the four Midland Academies Trust schools to United Learning.

As you will be aware, we have been working towards a target date of 1st November for the schools to formally join United Learning, and the Group has been working closely with each of our schools.

The decision has now been taken that, due to an outstanding matter with the Department for Education relating to capital improvement works at The Nuneaton Academy, it is unlikely that the original target date will be met. You will be aware that the Department for Education is dealing with a critical risk relating to the presence of RAAC in some school buildings. RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) is a lightweight form of concrete and has been identified in a number of schools nationally. It was therefore necessary for the DfE to prioritise their work on this most immediate issue. As such, the DfE were unable to support some other capital-related activities to the normal level at this time, hence the delay to the decision awaited by United Learning. However, we have been reassured that Nuneaton Academy remains a top priority for the department while the work to identify and address RAAC in schools is ongoing.

Please be assured that both parties are absolutely committed to the transfer; it is fully expected that this matter will be finalised soon and that we will be able to set a new transfer date over the coming weeks.

We are all working closely to ensure that, despite this temporary delay, everything is in place for a smooth transfer. United Learning will of course be continuing to provide school improvement support to the Trust, ahead of the formal transfer process being concluded. This includes each of our schools benefiting from the United Learning Curriculum and support from the Group's wide network of specialist subject advisors.

Thank you for your understanding and your ongoing support. We will of course continue to keep you informed as the transfer process continues.

Yours sincerely

Marion Plant OBE
Chief Executive Officer

