



Marches Academy Trust

The Marches Academy Trust

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CEO: Sarah Finch BA, MA, NPQH, NPQEL

FAO The Planning Inspector

17 September 2027

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed development of a new secondary school in Albrighton

The Marches Academy Trust has consistently worked in partnership with Shropshire Council to support the Local Authority in fulfilling its statutory duty to secure sufficient school places for local children and families. The Trust remains fully committed to this collaborative approach and is keen to continue working with the Council to meet future demand. Where additional capacity is required, the Trust would be willing to explore and support expansion opportunities within its schools, subject to the necessary capital investment being fully funded by the local authority.

The Trust recognises the importance of ensuring that sufficient educational capacity is available in the Albrighton area and, where additional places are required, would support the expansion of Idsall School as a sustainable and cost-effective alternative to the development of a new secondary school in Albrighton. The Trust considers that expanding provision at Idsall School would enable additional demand to be accommodated within an established and successful school, whilst making efficient use of existing educational infrastructure.

The Trust is keen to continue playing a proactive role in ensuring that sufficient high-quality school places are available to meet the needs of communities across Shropshire.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Finch
CEO