

# Governors' Consultation with the Chenies Community Chenies School

**November 2022**



Oxford Diocesan  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST

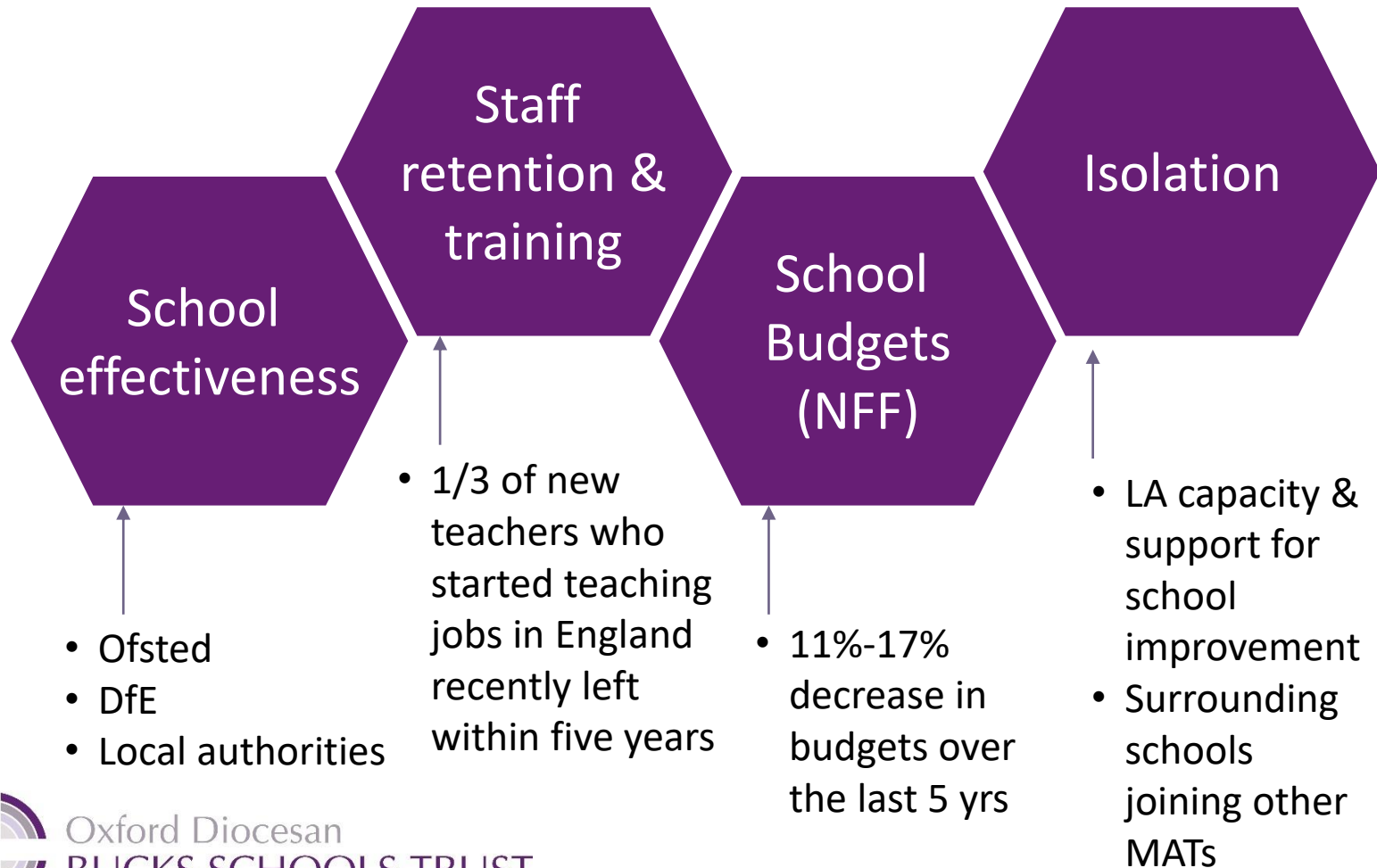
# Welcome

AGENDA	
i. Welcome & Introductions	Elizabeth Wilson– Chair of Governors
ii. The background to Chenies consultation	
<b>The Oxford Diocesan Bucks Schools Trust</b> iii. Presentation on the Trust, academisation and the decision process	Sulina Piesse– CEO (ODBST)
iv. Question time	Governors & ODBST
v. Summary and thanks	Elizabeth Wilson– Chair of Governors

# Agenda

- Academisation
- ODBST

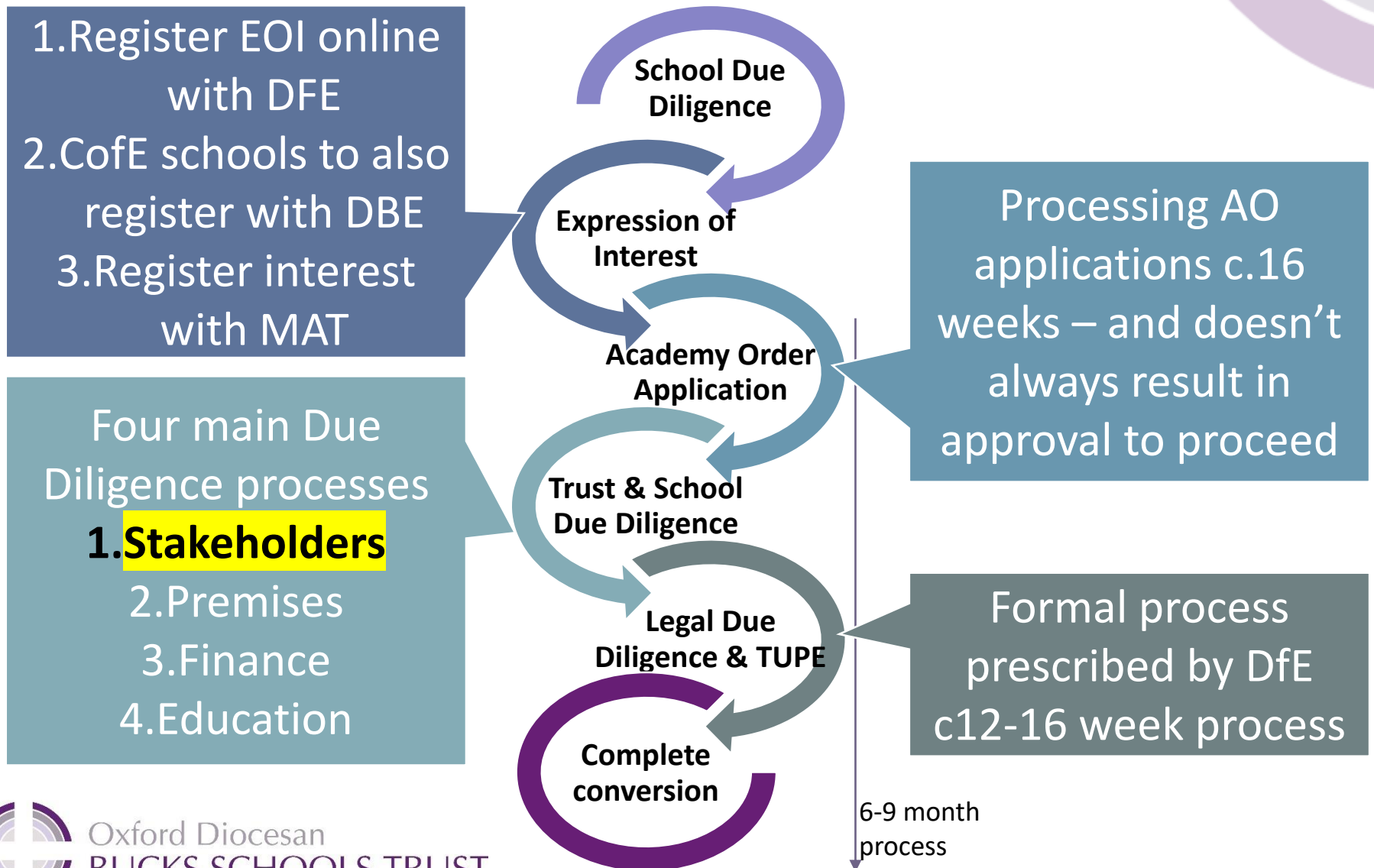
# The context for schools is continually changing



# What is an Academy?

- State-funded school directly funded by the Department for Education
- Launched in 2000, with the aim of boosting struggling schools
- Since 2010 the number of academies has risen rapidly
- Schools rated 'outstanding' or 'performing well' by Ofsted get priority
- Independent of the local authority
- More freedom to decide certain things for themselves, for example, curriculum, finances, term dates and school days
- New Academies must join a Multi Academy Trust (MAT)

# The conversion process



# The Oxford Diocese - 'The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education'

- 283 church schools across 9 Local Authorities
- 92% are judged Good or Outstanding
- Diocese has a statutory responsibility for SIAMS, RE and Collective Worship
- Well established School Improvement Service supporting schools (through SLA)



# The Diocesan Multi Academy Trusts



Established 2012  
38 Schools  
Serves Oxfordshire and  
Windsor & Maidenhead



Established September 2017  
11 schools  
Serves Buckinghamshire &  
Milton Keynes



# ODBST vision

**“Empowering our unique schools to excel”**



Each of our schools has a unique character of its own and we will work to ensure that this vision embraces all our pupils and adults, regardless of background and belief.

We empower our schools to deliver a broad, enriched and exciting curriculum, coupled with a shared zest for life and learning.

**We aspire for every pupil and adult to ‘experience life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10)**



# ODBST is currently formed of eleven schools

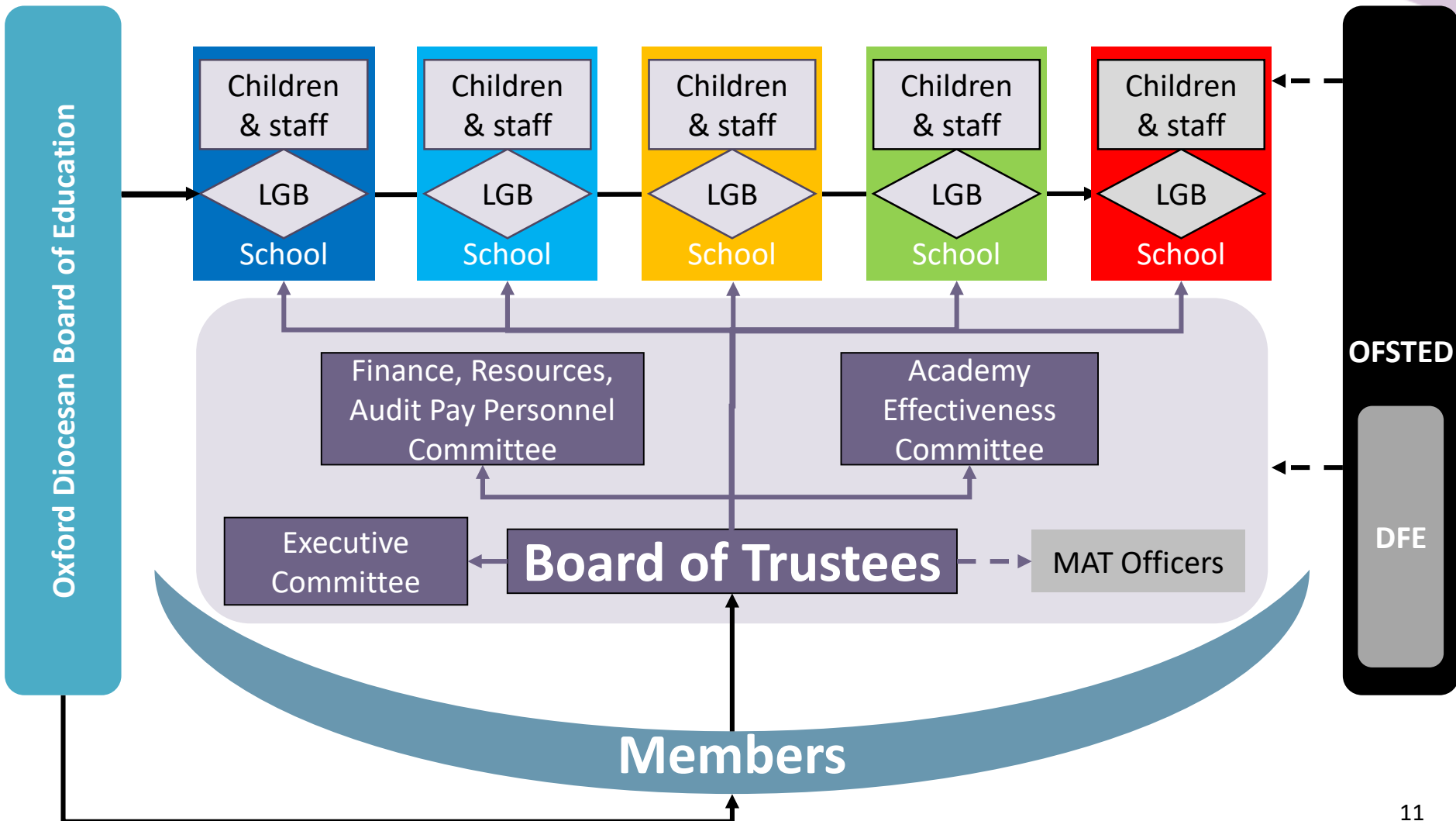
## ODBST Schools

- ★ Chesham Bois CE School
- ★ Thomas Harding Junior School
- ★ Great Horwood CE School
- ★ Padbury CE School
- ★ St John's CE Primary School, Lacey Green
- ★ Longwick CE Combined School
- ★ Christ the Sower Ecumenical School
- ★ Woodside Junior School
- ★ St Mary's CE, Aylesbury
- ★ Curzon CE Combined School
- ★ Elmtree Infant School

## Academy Order Issued

- ★ Speen

# ODBST Company Structure



# ODBST: Members

The three Members of the Trust are appointments of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education

1. **Oxford Diocesan Board of Education**, acting Corporately (currently named as Gordon Joyner)
2. **The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft**, Bishop of Oxford
3. **Peter Norman**

# ODBST: Trustees

There are currently twelve Trustees appointed by the Members and two ex officio appointments. They are each appointed for the skills they bring to the board.



**Mike Mil,**  
Chairman



**Michael Phipps**  
Vice Chairman



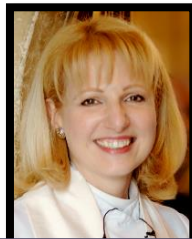
**Andrew Jeffrey**  
Chair, Finance



**Denise Shepherd,**  
Chair, Standards



**The Rt Rev Dr Alan**  
Wilson



**Revd Cannon Rosie**  
Harper



**Pragasen Morgan**



**Tony Wilson**  
Diocesan Director of  
Education

Ex-officio

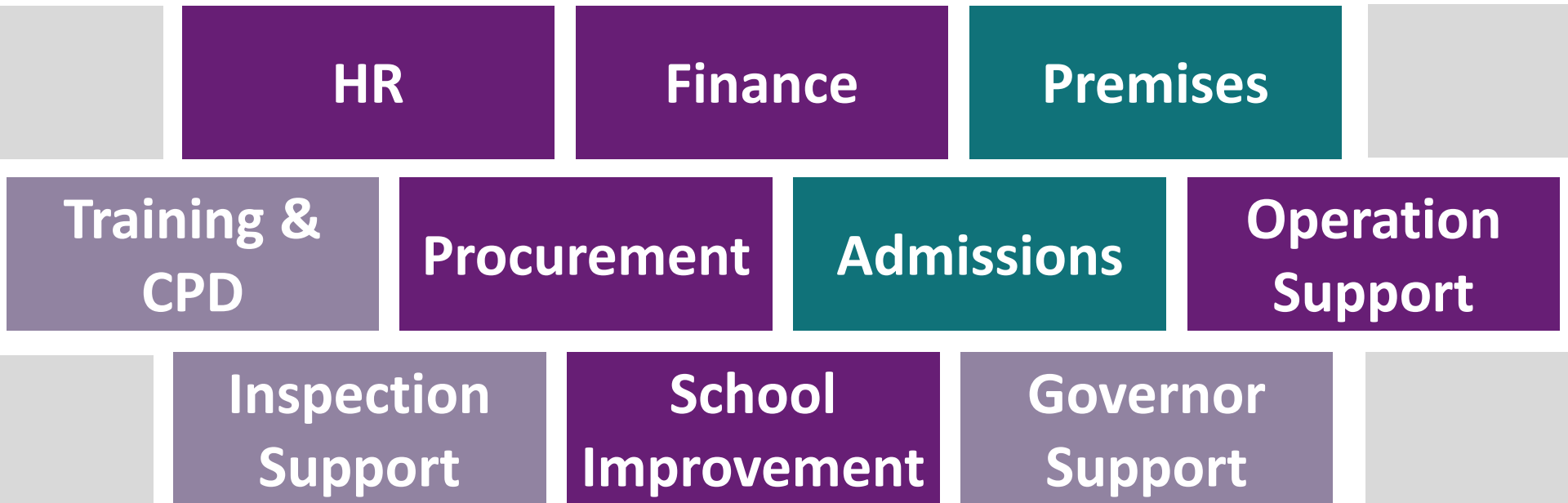


Ex-officio

**Sulina Plesse**  
Chief Executive Officer

# ODBST Service Provision

Services to academies in the Trust are provided by the Trust or in partnership with the Diocese



# What will becoming an academy mean?

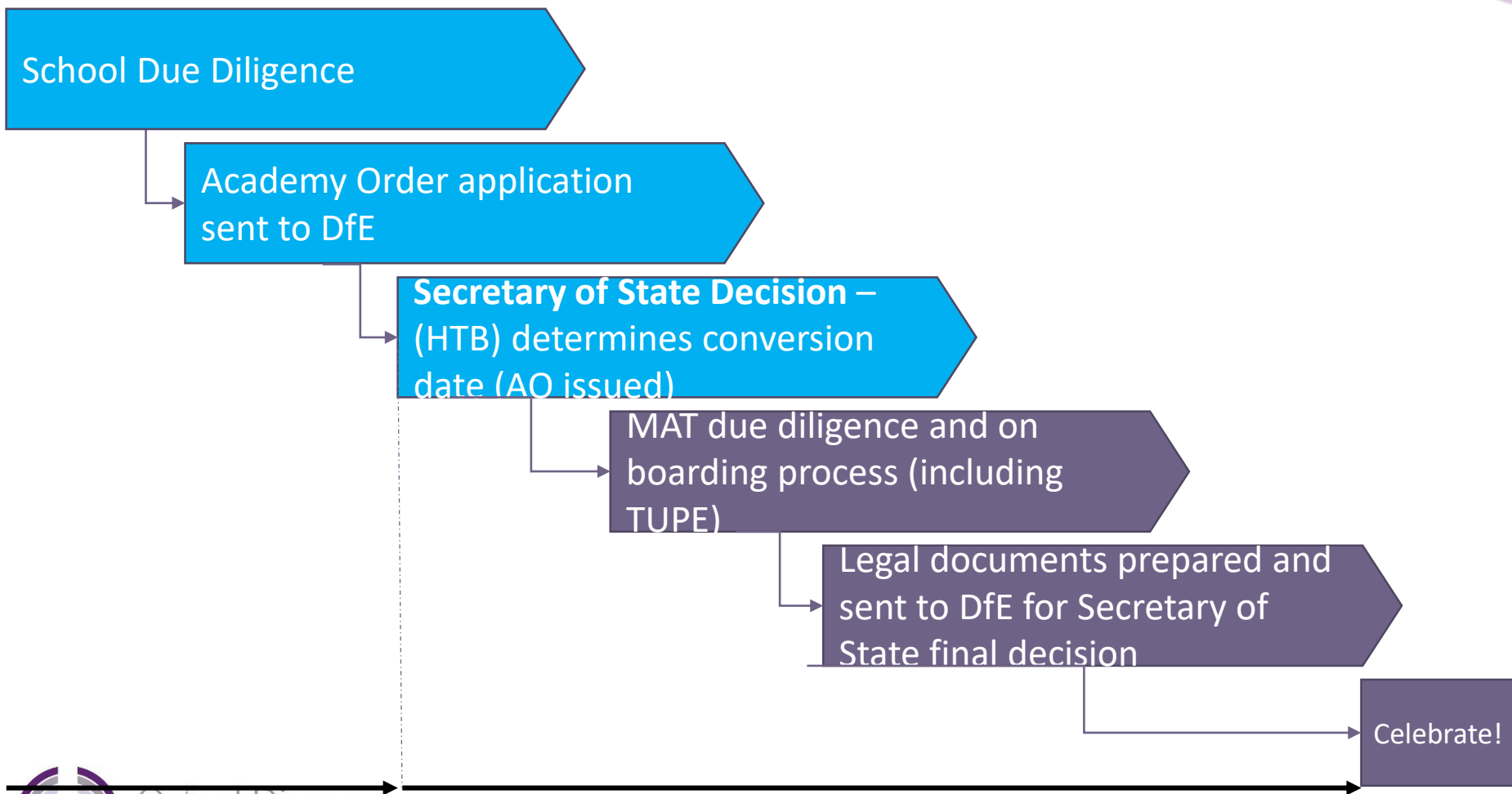
- More money?
- New buildings?
- New teachers?
- Changed admissions?
- Different catchment?
- Improved standards?
- Extra costs?

# Who makes the decision?

- The governing body is required to consult with **interested parties** about this decision (but it is not a referendum)
- The decision for your school to become an academy rests with the **governing body**
- Each party will conduct extensive due diligence to ensure the decision is in the best interests of the pupils and community
- The **Regional Schools Commissioner** needs to approve an Academy Order (which releases funding for the conversion work)
- **Secretary of State for Education** executes the conversion with signing and sealing of legal documents



# What happens next?



# Questions?

Why have the governors decided to convert to an academy with ODBST? (Key reasons/benefits for school and children and disadvantages)	What guarantee can you provide that the best interests of the school will be the focus point and not the trust to maximise their profits?
How would this impacting on Ofsted re-visiting, re-rating the school and the plan to improve?	Will this mean the school has less teachers or different teachers?
Will it change any structure? (staff, teacher, governor)	What support will the Trust provide?
How will the change impact on the children; the education they receive, the environment etc? Will it improve the resources and quality of teaching?	What are the proposed timescales? How will the consultation process work?
What drawbacks are there to ODBST?	Will there be an impact on the admissions criteria and application process?
Will the school change its name and/or uniform?	How will being an academy change things on a day to day basis for children and staff?
How will becoming an ODBST Academy benefit the school?	

# Governors' Consultation with the Chenies Community

Chenies School

Sulina Piesse, CEO  
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Governing Body



Oxford Diocesan  
BUCKS SCHOOLS TRUST