

## **Possible partnership between T4 Trust and Lime Trust announced**

T4 Trust and Lime Trust are in discussions to consider a merger of the two Trusts - a partnership which will benefit pupils and families in London and Peterborough.

The two trusts are working together, and with the Department for Education (DfE), to discuss the merger which would result in T4's two schools joining Lime Trust from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. A consultation on the proposals has been launched to allow parents, staff and other interested parties to comment on the proposal.

T4's two academies are both in London, the Ian Mikardo High School, a Special SEMH school in Tower Hamlets and Wac Arts College in Camden, while Lime Trust leads eight primary and special schools in London and Peterborough. Every decision that both trusts make is always in the best interests of the children, young people and staff they serve. T4 is committed to supporting the developmental and specialist needs of its young people. It strives to provide the best possible opportunities for all students and staff at both schools, and that is the overriding objective being sought through the partnership with Lime Trust. Lime Trust is also a strong, successful trust that has grown steadily and carefully since 2015. The two trusts share a similar ethos and values, providing high-quality teaching and learning with the aim of breaking down institutional and educational barriers for everyone's benefit.

If the merger goes ahead, the partnership will deliver increased collaboration, enhanced provision, and sharing of expertise and resources, for the benefit of students and staff across both trusts.

### **Tom Attwood, Chair of T4 Trust, said:**

*"T4 Trust has a strong reputation for supporting the developmental and specialist needs of 'hard to reach' young people: "Too Tough to Teach". We foster an environment for our students which is creative, personal and inspirational. I am confident that Lime Trust is an excellent fit for our schools and we believe a merger will have real benefits for our students and staff. The merger will provide T4 with greater strength and a wider network of knowledge sharing and resource."*

### **Christopher Cole, Chair of Lime Trust, said:**

*"There is a great deal of synergy between the two Trusts and all 10 schools, and we believe a partnership is very much in the best interests of the children, young people and staff at T4 and Lime. We have already been working together informally, which has been very positive, and we are now keen to formalise this into a true partnership."*

The consultation document can be found here:

<http://limetrust.org/about-us/consultation-proposed-merger/>