

Are You One of the Four a Day?

Will the end summer term or the start of the new academic year see your school becoming an Academy?

James Pinchbeck, Marketing Partner, Streets Chartered Accountants

According to the Department for Education the rate of schools converting to Academy status is now running at the rate of four a day.

As at the 8th May 2012,

- **1353 schools have applied** to be an academy since June 2010 – an increase of 110 in the last month.
- **527 have already converted** and are open – an increase of 97 in the last month.
- **801 academies now open**, including academies that opened under the previous Government.
- More than a third of all secondary schools are already academies or are in the process of converting.

Certainly we have been attending an increasing number of meetings with Schools, considering their options for the structure of their schools going forward. Whilst many of those converting to Academy status early on opted to become standalone academies, we are finding more and more are looking at alternative structures and models.

Whatever the options we do find our experience and guidance provides reassurance to governors, school heads and business managers.

Over the last months or so, our meetings have tended to be with those schools looking to convert prior to the end of the 2012 academic year or for the start of the new one in September 2012. Whatever the scenario, as part of our academies readiness support we are only too pleased to meet school representatives to discuss the considerations, options and implications of converting to Academy Status.

For details of our Academies Readiness Programme please phone 0845 880 0320 or email info@accountants4academies.co.uk.