



Elton Primary School & Nursery

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29th March 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

ACADEMY CONVERSION / MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Elton Primary School and Nursery is currently a Local Authority Maintained school. During the past year the Governing Body started to think about whether there would be a benefit if the school was converted into an Academy, and a working group of governors was set up to explore the issue. At the full governing body meeting before Christmas 2015, a preliminary application was lodged with the Department for Education. As you will be aware, it is now the agenda of the government to convert all primary schools to Academies by 2020.

The DfE has now approved the schools application and the governing body wishes to move forward with a formal consultation with parents, staff and other people who have an interest in the school.

The school is not yet fully committed to the process of conversion, and obtaining the views and support of 'stakeholders' is important to us. The school therefore has put together an information pack and we would invite all parents and carers to get in touch with your views and questions over the next few weeks. If following consultation it is decided that we go ahead, the likely conversion date would be January 2017.

The only way Elton Primary School and Nursery is currently able to become a Academy is to join or form a Multi Academy Trust with a group of like-minded other schools. The Governing Body have decided that the best way forward is to create a new Multi Academy Trust, as an equal partner, with William Stockton Primary School, Wimboldsley Primary School and Comberbach Primary School, all schools in Cheshire West that Elton has already formed strong links with.

Please visit the school's website at www.elton.cheshire.sch.uk where you'll find our Academy page which contains the Conversion Consultation paper and a Frequently Asked Questions document. Please can I ask you to read these and, if you wish to comment, get in touch in one of the following ways:

- Email the governing body at consultation@elton.cheshire.sch.uk;
- Write to the school at the school address (FAO Academy Consultation);
- Post a comment in the Comments Box at reception (FAO Academy Consultation).

The consultation window closes at **12 noon 15th April 2016**.

If you would like a hard copy of any documents referred to in this letter, please call in at the school office and copies will be printed for you.



The Leadership Team and Governors at school believe that, far from changing the school, forming an Academy is the best way of protecting our values and ethos against future change. The school has made great strides since our last Ofsted inspection, and we believe that Elton will continue working towards our objective of becoming an outstanding school.

Yours Sincerely

C Kinnear and K Manning
Acting Head Teachers

