

Polehampton C. of E. Schools Federation

Polehampton C. of E. Infant School

Hermitage Drive,
Twyford,
Berks
RG10 9HS
Tel: 0118 934 0246
Fax: 0118 934 9119
Email: admin@polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk
Web: www.polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk
Headteacher: Miss Helen Ball

Polehampton CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL

Kibblewhite Crescent,
Twyford,
Berks
RG10 9AX
Tel: 0118 934 1338
Fax: 0118 932 1316
Email: admin@polehampton-jun.wokingham.sch.uk
Web: www.polehampton-jun.wokingham.sch.uk
Interim Headteacher: Ms Funmi Alder

Wednesday 5th December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers of Polehampton Schools,

PROPOSAL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS

As you may recall from previous updates and our websites, the Governing Body has been considering conversion to academy status. Since then we have undertaken a thorough evaluation and have concluded that we should convert to academy status and join The Keys Academy Trust, an established local academy trust. The documents attached to this letter provide more information about this proposal and about what this means more generally, for our school and for our children.

The purpose of this letter is to consult you about our proposals. Please also see the document called "Academy Consultation Information" which we are sending to you by email.

Details of how to comment or ask questions are provided at the end of this letter. Please do let us know what you think.

Governors want the best outcomes possible for all our children and we also want to preserve and develop the ethos, values and philosophy that underpin our school's activities and define it as a community. Joining The Keys Academy Trust will support us in sustaining what makes our school unique. Due to significant reductions in central funding from the government, resulting in diminishing services for schools, Wokingham Local Authority has been asking schools to explore options in terms of academy conversion over recent years. As Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Junior Schools, conversations have also been ongoing with the Diocese and our local Church.

Academy status will change some things behind the scenes and provide some exciting opportunities for future development, but otherwise you and your children will see little difference. As governors and senior leaders, our focus will remain on your child's learning and the opportunities we can provide. We will continue to work closely together and with the diocese, the local authority and other local primary and secondary schools. The name of the school will not change; we will not change the uniform or the term dates or the school's admissions policy.

We hope that you will continue to give governors and staff your support in driving our schools forward. If you have any questions or comments you would like to make about the proposal to join The Keys Academy Trust and for our school to convert to academy status, please send them using the form attached by Wednesday 6th February 2019 – either in hard copy to the school in an envelope marked 'Academy Conversion' or by email to governors@polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk

We are holding 2 parent meetings next term. Thursday 10th January at 7.00pm at the Infant School And Friday 11th January at 9.00am at Junior School where you can come and ask questions to members of the governing body. Both meetings are open to parents from both schools. There will also be a surgery where you can meet representatives from The Keys Academy Trust at Earley St Peter's School on Wednesday 16th January between 5.00 – 7.00pm.

Please complete and return the form below so we have an approximate idea of numbers coming to each meeting.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Harrison
Chair of Governors

Meetings for Parents: Academy Conversion

Name of Parents/Carers.....

Child / Children's names

.....

Please circle the relevant statement(s):

I/We will attend the surgery on Thursday 10th January at 7.00pm – Infant School

I/We will attend the surgery on Friday 11th January at 9.00am at Junior School

I/We will attend the surgery on 16th January at Earley St Peter's School between 5.00 – 7.00pm to meet The Keys Academy Trust

Questions or comments I/we have about the proposal to convert to academy status and join The Keys Academy Trust.

Please return by Wednesday 6th February 2019 – either in hard copy to your child’s school in an envelope marked ‘Academy Conversion’ or by email to governors@polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk