

April 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Governing body and staff of Hinckley Parks Primary School.

As you are aware from our previous correspondence, these are times of great change in education. The national and local changes have led to a great deal of discussion on how schools will be organised in the future, not least within our community and locality.

The teachers and Governors have discussed, at length, what possible options are appropriate to improve the present system of schooling. We have attempted, during our discussions, to promote the idea of continued excellence in our school for our present children and for future generations. The guiding principle during our discussions has been; "What is best for our children now and in the future?" The central idea for the future of our schools has been one based on partnership and collaboration. That is, in working together the schools, parents and community will be best able to provide excellence for our children.

With this in mind, the governing body of Hinckley Parks have had a number of initial discussions with the OWLS Academy trust and over the next few months a number of decisions will be taken.

We all wish for you, as parents/carers in the community, to be fully involved, informed and consulted in this possible process of further development. Your views will be extremely useful in shaping our pathways.

Hinckley Parks Primary School will continue to run as it is currently run with Mrs Allison as the Headteacher and the senior leadership team who will be responsible for the overall running and progress of the school. We will retain a localised governing body which will be supported by the trustees and members of the Multi Academy Trust. The Trustees and Members will be made up from current governors from the five schools. By forming a MAT and becoming an Academy we want to share good practise, resources, and expertise across all levels of the schools.

Across the Multi Academy Trust Mr Merry, who is currently the Executive Headteacher at Glenmere Primary School and Langmoor Primary School, is the CEO (Chief Education Officer) of the MAT whose core purpose is to have a strategic lead for the trust level management of the Multi Academy Trust. This will promote a secure foundation from which to achieve high standards through a shared vision across the three schools.

The governors would like to seek your views with our proposal to join a Muti Academy Trust and we thank you in advance for your support and involvement in this most significant of ventures. We would like to invite parents to a formal meeting where this will be discussed. **The meeting will take place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm at the school.** At the meeting, we will outline the reasons for considering the MAT and why we feel this partnership is key, as well as respond to any questions raised by parents. There will be separate consultation events held for staff, pupils and trade union representatives.

We will consider any representations made at the meeting, together with any written comments made by parents, and other stakeholders, **before** reaching a formal decision on whether or not to apply to the Department for Education to convert. The governors are proposing that if Hinckley Parks School decides to join The MAT it will be with effect from September 2017.

Available on our website, is an information sheet containing questions and answers regarding what changes will or will not happen if Hinckley Parks to decide to become an academy and join a MAT.

We are happy to receive any comments about our proposed conversion to academy status by email to [office@Hinckley Parks.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@HinckleyParks.leics.sch.uk) (please put "Academy" in the subject line) or by note via the office in the main reception at school. **The consultation period opens on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April and runs until Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.**

We are keen to hear your views on this matter and look forward to hearing from you or discussing this further at the above meeting.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Cath Allison.  
Head Teacher

Mrs Rae Cresswell.  
Chair of Governors