



29th January 2019

Gosforth Schools' Trust Statement for Archbishop Runcie First School

Following the stakeholders' meeting at Archbishop Runcie and subsequent discussions between the Gosforth Schools' Trust and the school, the Directors of the Gosforth Schools' Trust would like to offer the following statement to stakeholders.

Admissions

Gosforth Central Middle School has reassured parents that there are no plans to reconsider or change any current admissions arrangements. In this regard, Archbishop Runcie pupils will not be disadvantaged as a result of the school joining NEAT.

Working with the GST

There are no plans to distance or exclude Archbishop Runcie from the work and benefits of the GST, although joining the NEAT would result in changes to some of the joint working as it may not be possible for the staff at the school to be fully involved in the work of both organisations.

The school will continue to be part of the Gosforth Pyramid and we will seek to involve the school in the work of the Pyramid and the GST whenever practical and possible.

Following discussions with Archbishop Runcie, we are currently working on a robust, collaborative and mutually supportive plan to strengthen and formalise our school to school support for all of our schools, including Archbishop Runcie, in the event of it continuing with its current status. This plan will be shared and agreed by all schools in the GST and will provide a mechanism through which we can all identify vulnerabilities in our schools. This plan will be available to Archbishop Runcie in time for staff and governors to consider before a final decision is made regarding joining NEAT.

We accept that as a Foundation Trust, we might not be able to provide all of the assurances which the Governors at Archbishop Runcie are looking for and we will respect the decision of the Governing Body to join NEAT, if that is the chosen direction for the school.