



Headteacher Mr O'Sullivan

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Dear Staff Member

RE: Proposal to convert to Academy Status and to become a member of the Nurture Academy Trust.

The Governing Board of Byron Primary School is requesting your comments on the Governing Board proposal for our school to convert to academy status and join Bradford Birth to 19 Multi Academy Trust (due to be renamed The Nurture Academy Trust Spring 2018)

Government policy has now been for a number of years to encourage effective schools to become Academies from both the primary and secondary sector. As the Local Authority budget is reduced they are under pressure to provide school services in the future. Nationally many schools have converted to Academy status and government policy continues to support academisation of schools, particularly in Bradford. We propose to take control of this situation for the children of Byron Primary School by joining 'Good' and 'Outstanding' schools that are part of Bradford Birth to 19.

The current members of the Bradford Birth To 19 MAT are:

- Lapage
- Denholme Primary School
- Parkwood Primary School
- Victoria Primary School

Some of the benefits of joining a MAT for our school and Trust include:

- working in partnership to increase our capacity for embedding and sustaining real school improvement for the benefit of all our learners
- creating a partnership of true equals which allows partner schools to work together and play to their strengths whilst preserving their individual ethos and culture
- maximising the expertise of our current staff to create a pool of highly effective practitioners across the board
- securing financial freedom and prioritise the deployment of funds, currently top sliced and held by the local authority centrally, directly for the benefit of our children
- finding local solutions to providing financial best value for our children

Each school in the Bradford Birth to 19 MAT would retain its name and would retain a degree of autonomy at the same time benefiting from being part of the Trust. There would also be more opportunities for all the schools in the Trust to share resources and for the children and staff to work together across all our schools.

The Bradford Birth to 19 MAT provides academy led education for Primary children of all ages and abilities in Bradford; fulfilling their potential and ensuring progress academically and personally. The vision of the MAT is to offer coherent and consistently outstanding opportunities including 100% good or better teaching. The MAT would create a school led solution, ensuring outstanding practice throughout the MAT and challenging under performance in all its schools, so that children attend great schools.

The Governing Board has therefore agreed to commence the process of consultation on joining the Bradford Birth To 19 Multi Academy Trust with a view to converting to Academy status from 1st July 2018. This consultation is open to all, including school's parents, pupils, staff and the wider community. We want to hear your views and establish if there is any significant objection for the Governing Body to take into account when making its final decision. The consultation period will end at 5pm on Monday 23rd April 2018.

There will be an opportunity for you to come and hear more about the proposal and to ask questions on Thursday 22/3/18 at 3.15, Thursday 29/3/18 at 8.45 and Thursday 19th April at 5.30 or please complete the "Academy Consultation" form and submit in person to your child's school's office no later than 5pm on Monday 23rd April 2018.

There is more information about MAT academies on the DfE website: <http://www.education.gov.uk/academies> and the school website.