

Friday 3rd March 2017

Dear Parents

You may be aware of the Government's policy of developing the academy programme. The purpose of an academy is to give the school the opportunity to have greater control over its management.

We became an academy in April 2013. Schools are now no longer able to convert to a Single Academy Trust (SAT) but have to join a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) and the Government's aim is that all schools become academies. As you will be aware, the school has been in a partnership with Coughton C of E Primary since September 2015, with Mr Walsh as Executive Headteacher. This agreement ends in August 2017. As Governors, we have to consider whether to formalise this partnership; therefore we have been reviewing our options in order to be sure of making an informed choice.

We now wish to inform you that the Governing Body has decided to explore converting the school from a Single Academy Trust to a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) including Coughton C of E Primary School and Temple Grafton C of E Primary School.

In order to help us to reach a decision, we would very much like to hear from you about whether you think it is in the best interests of children at St Nicholas Church of England Primary School to become part of the proposed MAT. We welcome your views, questions and comments about this. The Governing Body believes this consultation is vital to ensure that they make an informed decision.

We are also consulting with the staff and wider community including the Diocese, the local Church and our local partners. The consultation period will run from 6th March to 31st March 2017. Once this consultation period closes, the Governors will make a final decision.

You can share your thoughts and ask questions in the following ways:

- Via email to consultation3595@welearn365.com
- In writing to the Clerk to The Governing Body at the school address
- Drop in session with governors on Tuesday 14th March 6.30pm – 7.30pm

The Governing Body believes that considering everyone's views and opinions is essential to support us in acting in the best interests of the children of our school, now and in the future.

Kind regards

Laurie Yearley
Chair of Governors

