

**14 March 2023**

Dear Parent/Carer

**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL OF LIDGET GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL TO JOIN A MULTI ACADEMY TRUST AND FOR THE SCHOOL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS**

For some time, the Governing Body of Lidget Green Primary School has been considering carefully the school’s future in a fast-changing and increasingly challenging educational landscape. Governors have spent time researching and undertaking due diligence and now believe that the best plan moving forward is for Lidget Green Primary School to become an academy and join Pennine Academies Yorkshire.

Our application for academy status will be reviewed at the April Advisory Board meeting and we see no reason why it will not be approved. As part of the process we have a duty to consult with key stakeholders and the information enclosed within this letter is the beginning of that process.

We will be hosting meetings and preparing documents which will help you to understand our proposals, what it means for the school and the staff and children, answer any questions you may have and most importantly enables you to share your thoughts and ideas.

**What is the proposal?**

Our school would like to join an existing Multi Academy Trust – Pennine Academies Yorkshire. This is a small Multi Academy Trust based in Bradford consisting of six other Good and Outstanding schools. The existing academies in the trust to date are: Farnham Primary School, Hollingwood Primary School, Laycock Primary School, Crossley Hall Primary School, Grove House Primary School and Clayton Village Primary School. To find out more about Pennine Academies Yorkshire you can log on to their website [www.pennineacademiesyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.pennineacademiesyorkshire.co.uk) or join us at our meeting highlighted below.

**Why have Governors decided to join Pennine Academies Yorkshire?**

Lidget Green Primary School conducted research and met with other multi academy trust partners in the city. Following this work and meetings, Pennine Academies Yorkshire was the preferred partner. The values of the MAT are closely aligned with Lidget Green Primary School, in particular their ethos around the inclusion of all pupils and enabling us to retain our individual school identity. Working with the Trust and its schools is something that Governors feel would continue to strengthen the school providing new and further opportunities to pupils and staff.

**Consultation**

Governors are now entering the consultation phase and would like to consult with parents, carers, staff, pupils and the wider community on the proposal for Lidget Green Primary School to convert to academy status and join Pennine Academies Yorkshire.

The consultation period will run from 13 March 2023 to the 24 April 2023. Following consultation, the Governing Body will consider a report on the findings of the consultation at a meeting in May and this will be made available online to all stakeholders via our school website.

**We invite parents to attend a consultation meeting on**

**Thursday 23 March 2023**

**at 9:00am or 2:30pm**

The two sessions (which will be identical in format) will be an opportunity to ask questions about academy status and how this will affect the school. Representatives from Governors, school leadership and Pennine Academies Yorkshire will be available to talk to you and you will also be able to register your comments, queries and any thoughts on opportunities or concerns.

We have also prepared and enclosed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document to help answer some of the questions we anticipate you may have.

You can have your say in the following ways:

* By completing our online survey on our school website available w/c 13 March
* By asking questions at any of our meetings

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Christine Moran Mrs Deirdre Bailey

**Headteacher Chair of Governors**

**Enclosed:**

● Academy consultation FAQs

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Consultation reply slip**

**Please complete and return to the Main Office by Wednesday 22nd March 2023**

I/we will be attending the information session on Thursday 23 March 2023 at:

*9:00am*

*2:30pm*

Child’s name ……………………………………………………………………. Class ………………………………………

Parent/carer ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….