



June 2019

## Academy Update

I write to update you on our school plans to convert to an academy. Following our last Ofsted inspection in November 2018, an Academy order was put forward from the Department for Education. Since this time, there has been very little to feedback to you on but I am pleased to say that we now have some information to share with all stakeholders. Some may remember historic plans to convert to an academy and feedback received, when I joined the school in April 2017, was that communication needed to be improved on this matter.

Since the November Ofsted inspection, I, the Local Authority and the Department for Education have been working together to secure a prospective sponsor that will continue to build on all the positive changes made since 2017, and continue to support us in ensuring our collective and aspirational vision for the school becomes reality.

Over the past couple of months, we have welcomed a number of interested parties into our school and all have been impressed with the level and standard of learning resulting in a high level of interest in our school - this is a testament to the amount of work carried out so far.

There are many misconceptions around schools converting to an academy and each Academy Trust is different. What I can reassure you of is that our huge developments have been recognised and a future sponsor will be ensuring this continues at pace through utilisation of their wealth of services and resources. I have listed some key initiatives that we aim to build through partnership below:

- Further extending learning opportunities and activities for pupils.
- Further enriching the curriculum through partnership working and shared resources.
- Enabling the sharing of excellent practice in teaching and learning through close partnerships.
- Enhancing the professional development of teaching and support staff.
- Further building mutual support and accountability between the Headteachers and between the Governors.
- Securing cost and resource efficiencies through joint commissioning of services.

It is expected that our school will be discussed at a Headteachers' Board next Thursday and hopefully, an outcome decided with interested parties.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Watkin  
Headteacher