



*"All Learning Together"*

Langton Primary School  
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6<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Dear parents,

As you are aware, the Governing Body has, over the last few years, carefully considered the best strategy for the future of our school and, as a result, held an open meeting with you about a year ago, where we discussed the options available to us and our proposal to convert to an academy under the umbrella of the Evolution Schools Learning Trust with Norton College. This is a Multi Academy Trust (MAT)<sup>i</sup>.

Government cuts have meant diminished support from the local authority and small schools such as ours may be unsustainable in the long term. In joining ESLT our aim is to secure and build on the strengths of the school and protect the school's independence to do what we think is right for our pupils, staff and community. As a forward looking governing body, we strongly believe that working together as part of a larger organisation will provide the best way to do this although I am sure that you are aware that the Government is now committed to moving all schools to academy status by 2020.

This letter is to let you know that our application to convert to an academy was formally approved by the Department of Education last month. We now want to consult with our parents, staff, pupils & community to give you more information, listen to any concerns and answer any questions you have before progressing further. The consultation period will run from the date of this letter until **17<sup>th</sup> June 2016** when all views expressed will be taken into account in our final decision about Academy Status. We would therefore welcome your input during this consultation period.

We would like to invite all parents to a meeting in school at **6pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May** when the conversion proposal will be explained in more detail. Mr Phil Loftus, Head of Norton College will also be attending the meeting.

We are preparing a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to help answer some of the questions we anticipate you will have. This, along with other information will be put on our website. We hope you will be able to attend the meeting, but will also offer a form for you to submit questions if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Further information about academy conversion can be found on the Department of Education website.<sup>ii</sup>

**We very much look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm.**

The Governors of Langton School

Stuart Simpson, Andrew Priestley, Roland Sterry, Rachel Ray, Rosemary Laverack, Pam Abbott, Anne Conroy.

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<sup>i</sup> A Multi-Academy Trust is a group of schools working in partnership to benefit from shared practice, increased access to specialist facilities, greater economies of scale in purchasing, support with procurement of services, etc. More information on MATs can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-in-multi-academy-trusts>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/search?q=academy+conversion+guide+for+schools>

Head teacher: Mrs Rachel Ray  
Chair of Governors: Mr Stuart Simpson

