



St Mark's C.E. (A) Primary School

Loving to learn, Learning to Love.

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14th September 2018

ACADEMY CONSULTATION LETTER FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Dear Parent/Carer or Member of the Local Community,

The Governing Body's priority is to enable the school to continue to provide an excellent education for our children while protecting the school's role at the heart of our community and retaining its unique qualities and strengths. We recognise that the role of local authorities in supporting schools is diminishing and that it is Government policy to encourage effective schools to become academies. The Governing Body believes the best way of maintaining standards in the future is for our school to become an academy and to form a multi-academy trust with other like-minded local schools.

The following 'founder' schools – who share a common ethos, aims and vision – are proposing to come together as equal partners within a multi-academy trust:

Abbey Hill School and Performing Arts College, Meir

Abbey Hulton Primary School, Abbey Hulton

Etruscan Primary School, Etruria

Forest Park Primary School, Cobridge

Kemball School, Blurton

Oakhill Primary School, Oakhill

St Mark's CE (A) Primary School, Shelton

Watermill School, Chell

The provisional name for the Trust is the "Trent Community Trust" but part of our consultation process will be about the proposed name of the Trust. Each school will keep its name and will retain much of its independence while benefiting from being part of the Trust. There will also be more opportunities for the children, staff and governors to work together across the eight schools.

The Governing Body has therefore agreed to consult on joining the Trust with a view to converting to academy status from 1 January 2019. This consultation is open to all, including parents/carers, pupils, staff, pre-school and the wider community. We want to hear your views and establish if there are any significant objections for the Governing Body to take into account when making its final decision. The consultation period will end on Friday 12th October 2018. We have prepared a consultation document which includes answers to many 'Frequently Asked Questions'. This is available on our website www.saintmarksprimary.org.uk in the news section or by requesting a copy



from the School Office. A feedback form is included within the consultation document. If you wish to provide feedback, please ensure this is returned to the School Office by Friday 12th October 2018.

Representatives from the Governing Body and the Senior Leadership Team will be available to meet with you to discuss any questions on Wednesday 26th September at 5pm.

Yours faithfully,

M Johnstone

Executive Headteacher
Mrs M Johnstone

G Cotton

Chair of Governors
Mrs G Cotton

