



Cleadon Lane, Whitburn, nr. Sunderland, Tyne & Wear SR6 7NS

Tel: (0191) 529 3069

info@whitburnvillage.s-tyneside.sch.uk

Dear Colleagues,

Consultation on a proposal for Blue Skies Federation to convert to Academy status

Background

You may well be aware that the Government is encouraging all schools to consider converting to Academy status. Academies are publicly funded state schools that are independent of the Local Authority and receive funding directly from Central Government.

After careful consideration, Blue Skies Governing Body are considering options to ensure its schools continue to provide an excellent education for all pupils as well as retaining their unique qualities and strength and remaining at the heart of the communities they serve.

Therefore, the governing body has decided that they wish to explore conversion to Academy status and, in particular, formation of a Multi-Academy Trust with Barnwell Academy. We are writing to consult with staff, parents and local community partners and we would like to invite your views on the matter.

We believe pupils and staff would benefit from the greater opportunities that formal partnership, through the Trust, would bring, which include:

- extending learning opportunities and activities for pupils
- enriching the curriculum through partnership working and shared resources
- enabling the sharing of excellent practice in teaching and learning
- enhancing the professional development of teaching and support staff
- securing cost and resource efficiencies through joint commissioning of services

Consultation

We are now consulting with staff, parents, carers, pupils and the community. The consultation period will run between Friday 24th May and Friday 28th June.

We would ask that you let us have your views by either completing the google form

<https://forms.gle/oGCmKFc7UmGNkoa67>

Or email

consultation@whitburnvillage-primary.co.uk

by

Noon - Friday 28th June 2024

There will be an open meeting for you to come and raise any queries you may have or make comments about this. The will be held in the school hall on:

- Wednesday 12th June @ 5pm.
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If the governing body agree to proceed, the plan is for the school to convert during the Autumn term 2024 or as soon as is practical.

Finally, we want to emphasise the outcome of the consultation will be important to our future decision.

Yours faithfully,

Executive Head Teacher

Chair of Governors