



Ashton Gate Primary School

'Rising High Together'

Executive Headteacher: Mr. G Jones

Head of School Ashton: Mrs. L Dowlman Head of School Upton: Mr. A Donaldson

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25th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Consultation on Academy Status.

I am writing to seek your views on the important question of whether the school should convert to academy status and join the Cathedral Schools Trust.

As Governors of Ashton Gate Primary, we have been considering the future of the school and the partnerships and opportunities it has. It is our role to ensure that the school's values and vision are protected and the school continues to thrive for the children and for the staff of the community. The educational landscape is changing; in and around Bristol multi academy trusts (MATs) are prevalent. We have begun to evaluate the relationships the school has which both challenge and support it to ensure high quality education and excellent provision for all. We have had to challenge ourselves to look to the future and actively make a decision about what is important for our school. With this in mind, we have looked for a partner who shares our ethos and philosophy. The process of investigation has been long and we have spoken to a range of partners. We have decided to explore this further with Cathedral Schools Trust and this letter sets out our consultation period with you as parents. We are excited about this potential partnership and the opportunities that will come for children and for staff by joining a larger, likeminded family of schools.

This question is of great significance to our school and your views are extremely important to us. I therefore enclose a consultation document which:

- explores the question and explains why the governing body is investigating this option,
- provides information about the Cathedral Schools Trust, and
- provides answers to questions that we have received so far in the process.

We will be holding consultation meetings for you to talk through the proposal with us and representatives from Cathedral Schools Trust. The meetings will be held on Monday 5th February at 3.30pm and Tuesday 20th February at 6.00pm. Both meetings will be held at the Upton Road site.

Please let us know what you think about the proposal. You can:

- send any comments by email to chairashtongatep@bristol-schools.uk with the heading "Academy Consultation"
- deliver any hand written comments to the school office marked "Academy consultation".
- attend our parent drop-in meeting with Ashton Gate Primary staff and governors on Thursday 22nd February at 9.15am at the Upton Road site.



We would be pleased to have any responses to this consultation before 5th March 2024. The governors will review all the comments before deciding whether or not to go ahead.

Yours sincerely,

S. Waller

Sue Waller
Chair of Governors

