



Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

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Acting Head Teacher: Diane Mulley

9th September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parent Consultation

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Governors of Spalding Parish Church of England Day School to inform you of our decision to go to Consultation over our school becoming an Academy as part of the Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust (LAAT).

After reviewing the options available to our school, with the academy agenda now a reality for all schools and given the recent Ofsted judgement, joining a strong academic trust to further support us on our journey of improvement is the best course of action. However, we are keen to hear the views of all stakeholders of Spalding Parish Church of England Day School regarding this important decision.

Key points of converting to Academy status within a Multi-Academy Trust

- 🏰 Our school will retain its character and will continue to look, feel and be the same as it is now with the same uniform, school name, school times, holiday pattern and admission policy. Most of the changes will be behind the scenes.
- 🏰 The MAT organisation does not affect your choice of secondary school for your child. We will continue to work closely with all our local schools including all our local secondary schools in areas such as Year 6 transition and events.
- 🏰 A Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team will continue to lead our school on a daily basis as they do now.
- 🏰 The MAT arrangements will share some services across the schools which will help them be more efficient and make sure that funding is focused on teaching, learning and support for children.

Academy status is becoming more common and the Government and local authorities have made clear their intention to encourage/support all schools to become academies and in particular for schools to organise themselves within groups. As their budgets are reduced, local authorities are also reducing the services that they have available to schools. Making this change now means that we can choose how we want our school to develop. As local schools, we will continue to have good working relationships with each local authority.

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Compassion, Trust, Friendship and Hope*

The benefit of this action for the school are:

- 🏰 To be part of a larger group of academies with shared vision and values, putting children first, whilst retaining the unique qualities which are so important to the school community.
- 🏰 As part of LAAT our school will keep its identity – the name, uniform and way we plan our curriculum will remain unchanged.
- 🏰 To have access to the range of services which membership of the LAAT brings – eg Payroll, Legal, Financial, HR, School Improvement. This will allow our Senior Leaders more time to concentrate on ensuring the delivery of a wonderful education to our children, rather than running a company.
- 🏰 To provide economic benefits such as centralised services and economies of scale.
- 🏰 To provide staff with greater access to training and development opportunities which will help us to keep strong staff for longer.
- 🏰 To enable us to support each other as the support from local authorities reduces.
- 🏰 To help us to develop the highest quality of leadership and management and the highest quality of teaching and learning.
- 🏰 To give us the greater freedoms in developing the school curriculum to make sure that it is personalised to the needs of our pupils, ensuring high expectation and total conviction that all pupils can succeed whatever their circumstances, background or previous level of attainment.

Governors believe that academy status within a MAT is the best way to support the school in continuing to develop and improve, and that working together within the Trust will bring benefits to teaching and learning and this will impact on children's achievement.

Further information re academisation will be added to the website for parents and carers as well as other interested parties. However, Governors are determined that before such a significant step is taken every interested party should have a proper opportunity to let their views be known. With this in mind, we have scheduled a day, on Tuesday 17th September 2019, between 9.00am and 11.00am and 4.30pm and 6.00pm for parents/carers to book appointments with school leaders where queries and concerns can be discussed. A member of the LAAT team will also be available to answer any of your questions. Please contact the school office to book an appointment. Alternatively, please return any responses to the consultation on the attached form or email your comments to feedback@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk with 'Academy/MAT consultation' in the subject line. All responses should be received by Monday 30th September 2019.

The Governors of Spalding Parish Church of England School are determined to lead the school to even higher achievements and maintain an excellent education for our children and they firmly believe Academy status as part of the LAAT is a major step along the way.

We welcome your responses.

Kind Regards,



Diane Mulley
Acting Head Teacher

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School
Academy Consultation as part of the Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust (LAAT)

Name:

Child's Name:

Class:

Comments:

Please return your comments to the school office.

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