

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SETTLE CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

KIRKBY-IN-MALHAMDALE UNITED (VOLUNTARY AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL FOR FEDERATION FOR THE 'SETTLE AND MALHAM PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS'

The Governing Bodies of Settle CE Primary School and Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School are consulting parents, staff and the local community on a proposal to change how the two schools are led and managed.

The proposal is to federate the two schools from **16th July 2019** and we would welcome your views on whether we should go forward with this idea.

This paper sets out what Federation would mean and how you can make your views known.

The consultation has the support of North Yorkshire County Council and the Diocese of Leeds.

What is Federation?

A Federation is a formal agreement between two or more schools to work together in partnership to extend the breadth and quality of provision, raise standards and to build the capacity of each school to support pupils.

In this proposed Federation, the two schools will remain legally separate schools each with their own budget, buildings and admissions policy. However, leadership and management of the two schools would be shared by the Executive Head Teacher, Mr Richard Wright.

It is important to emphasise that both schools will retain their own identity and ethos.

Why Federation?

The two schools already work very closely together. However, the Federation would strengthen the strategic direction of both schools and ensure all decisions take into account a shared formal partnership agreement to support all learners, staff and the wider community.

Federation helps to maintain strong leadership structures between the two schools and aids sustainability as well as access to shared curriculum and management expertise.

Federation benefits the school through shared administrative systems and through more efficient governance by having decisions made through a joint governing body structure that will always take into account both school communities.

Federation will increase staff training and development opportunities as well boost opportunities for pupils from both schools to work and play together.

The shared governing body can provide an effective and accountable mechanism for the two schools to combine resources, purchasing, admin systems and staff which release strategic capacity for the Executive Head Teacher, offering value for money and enabling both schools to remain viable and strong into the future.

Sharing the leadership and management would mean a joint approach to teaching and learning opportunities, drawing on the best ideas from each in developing wider curriculum opportunities for all pupils.

How will the Federation be organised?

The two schools would be separate schools and retain their current names so pupils will be registered at either Settle CE Primary School or Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School. Each school would keep its present school uniform.

Admissions to each school would be made separately. North Yorkshire County Council would continue to be responsible for admissions at Settle CE Primary as it is a Voluntary Controlled School and the governing body would continue to be responsible for admissions to Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary as a Voluntary Aided School.

As school **budgets** are funded largely by pupil numbers, a Federation between the two schools would allow the schools to sustain a broad and balance curriculum that will efficiently make savings through a joint approach.

A new joint **Governing Body** would be created. There would be **12** governors in total, being representative of both schools and made up of the following categories:

- **2 elected parent governors “elected from across the federation**
- **2 staff governors including the Executive Head Teacher plus one staff governor elected from across the federation.**
- **3 Co-opted Governors.**
- **2 foundation governors, appointed by the Diocese**
- **2 foundation governors, appointed from the Foundation Governors of Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary**
- **1 Local Authority governor**

It is likely that a number of existing governors will express an interest in being put forward for these positions so as to maintain continuity.

The **Executive Headteacher** will continue to divide time between the two schools and when off site at one school, arrangements would be in place to ensure that a nominated member of staff is in charge. This ensures that both schools will continue to be responsive to any concern about pupils.

School Staff would continue to be employed by North Yorkshire County Council and would be under the direction of the Executive Head Teacher. Existing staff would be consulted about any proposed change to their terms and conditions of employment as in the future it could be expected that some staff may work in both schools. Newly appointed staff would be expected to teach in either or both schools. Staff would benefit from shared training opportunities and be able to work together in curriculum development.

The governing bodies of both Settle CE Primary School and Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School have given considerable thought to this proposal before asking parents, staff and the community for their views.

Next Steps

The Governing Bodies of Settle CE Primary School and Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School will meet together on **Tuesday 21st May 2019 at Settle CE Primary School 6pm** to consider the responses. After that, each governing body will meet separately to decide whether to proceed. An announcement will be made about the decision. If it is decided to proceed, then a meeting will be held between the two schools to agree detailed arrangements so that the Federation can start on **16th July 2019**. Parents will be kept informed about progress through newsletters.

How you can find out more

A meeting will be held at each school on **Friday 3rd May 2019** taking place at Kirkby Malham Primary School at **2pm** in the school hall and at Settle CE Primary School at **4pm** in Class 6 for parents of all pupils attending either of the two schools and for parents of all pre-school children. Parents are welcome to attend either meeting and will be made to feel most welcome.

How to make your views known

You can attend the meetings at the schools but we would also appreciate written responses. You can complete the attached response sheet and return it to either:

Federation Proposal
Settle CE Primary School
Bond Lane
Settle
North Yorkshire
BD24 9BW

or

Federation Proposal
Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School
Kirkby Malham
Skipton
North Yorkshire,
BD23 4BY

The closing date for responses is **Tuesday 14th May 2019**

Michael Gudgeon
Chair of Governors
Settle CE Primary School

Andrew Booth
Chair of Governors
Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School

Some Facts and Figures

Settle CE Primary School has seven classes at present and is a school for 3-11 year olds. It has over 200 pupils currently on roll.

Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School currently provides three classes and has 52 pupils on roll aged 4-11. It has plans to pilot Nursery provision from September 2019

Proposal for the Federation of Settle CE (VC) Primary School and Kirkby-in-Malhamdale United (VA) Primary School

Observations and/or suggestions on the proposal

You are not required to complete the personal information below. However, it will be helpful to the Governing Bodies if you do so.

Name

Address

Postcode Date

Your interest in Settle CE Primary School or Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School - Please tick appropriate box

Parent/carer of pupil at Settle Primary School Parent/carer of pupil at Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School

Member of staff at Settle Primary School Member of staff at Kirkby-in-Malhamdale Primary School

Parent of pre-school child

Other (Please state)

The closing date for this consultation is Tuesday 14th May 2019

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, responses to the consultation may be accessed by members of the public