

Penns Primary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians

Thursday 18th July 2019

As we break or the summer holiday, we felt it was important to provide you with an update about the proposed MAT.

To clarify, please be advised that the current position remains as previously communicated to parents:

- The governing body have agreed to explore the possibility of forming a MAT.
- They have sought and taken advice from the RSC (Regional Schools Commissioner)
- Penns School subscribes to School and Governor Support and has also sought and received their advice and guidance on these matters.

I can confirm that to date:

- **No application has been made** to the RSC.
- Therefore **No period of formal consultation** has been entered into and
- **No decision** has been made to convert to academy status.

Should an application be made in the future and be accepted it is at this point that the school enters into consultation and parent views would be part of this and welcomed by the governors. It is likely at this stage that the governors would arrange a meeting for parents. The governors would fully consider parental views before any final decision is reached as whether to withdraw or proceed.

If the application is approved, then this will also commence a comprehensive process of formal due diligence and not the conversion itself.

This consultation will be an essential element of fulfilling our statutory duties as governors and the views and outcomes will be reported back to the governing body.

Due diligence, is undertaken by a legal team and will provide essential Risk Assessment information which includes (but not limited to):

- Finance appraisal



- Premises and land appraisal
- External stakeholder consultation
- Educational standards appraisal

Upon completion of the due diligence, the independent legal team will present the findings (including the result of the formal parent/carer/stakeholder consultation) in a detailed report to the governing body. This information will inform the governing body in their review of the consultation process.

The governors understand that we all, parents, staff and governors have the best interests of the children at our school upper most.

We sincerely hope that this correspondence helps to clarify the current position.

Yours sincerely

J Clemson
Chair of Governors