



# Academy status for Eastlands Primary School

Second Briefing for Parents/Carers  
November 2014



# Aims of this briefing



- Recap on the decision on academy status
- To explain how the final decision will be made
- To draw together strands of the feedback/questions to date
- To share an external view of conversion
- Outline next steps after this consultation



# The decision to pursue conversion



- Unanimous decision by the Governing Body
- Based on our considered view of the best interests of the school
- Based on the desire to become an Outstanding school quicker
- This to be facilitated by:
  - Improving teaching & learning
  - More senior leadership time spent on school improvement
  - A more efficient school 'business' with more resources
  - More accountability and responsibility for the Governing Body
  - More transparency and ownership
- Signing the Funding Agreement will be a collective Governing Body decision based on being assured on the above



# Since our last meeting...



- Continuing the consultation
- Reviewing, considering and responding to questions
- Meeting with local councillors
- Continuing to discuss as Governors
- Meeting with potential suppliers to build the business case
- Ongoing conversations with lawyers, accountants, colleagues
- Continuing to seek external views...



# An external view...



- An outstanding range of interesting activities highly motivates pupils to learn.
- Attainment by the end of Year 2 is consistently above average in reading and mathematics and at least average in writing.
- Pupils make good progress from relatively low starting points on entry to the school, particularly in writing.
- Disabled pupils and those who have special educational needs receive good, well-targeted support to learn well and catch up.
- Teaching is good overall and is sometimes outstanding, especially when teachers make the most of exciting outdoor learning to motivate the pupils to write.
- Pupils' behaviour is exemplary and they feel very safe in school. They have an excellent understanding of what constitutes bullying, which they say is very rare in school. Attendance is consistently well-above average.
- The headteacher leads the school exceptionally well. Staff are highly motivated and fully supported to meet the school's high expectations. As a result, teaching is steadily improving and standards are rising.
- The trustees provide excellent support to the headteacher and robust challenge to continue improving the school.
- Extra funding for pupils eligible for the pupil premium is spent effectively, resulting in improving progress for these pupils.





**Maureen Roberts**  
**School Business Manager**  
Henry Hinde Infant School, Rugby

Number on Roll: 180  
Ofsted judgement: Good (April 2013)  
Converted to Academy 2012



# Henry Hinde Infant School



- Why we decided to convert to an Academy
- So, two years on, what's changed?
- What were parents' biggest concerns?
- What are the positives for HH post conversion?
- What are the negatives for HH post-conversion
- Autonomy – what does it mean for HH?
- What if it all goes wrong?
- Would we go back if we had the chance?
- Any regrets/would we change anything?



# Still to do



- Meet with the LA finance officer to review budgets
- Continue to accept and respond to questions
- Meet as a Governing Body to discuss the consultation
- Agree the structure of the governing body post conversion
- Continue to engage with potential suppliers
- Staff to meet LA representatives regarding TUPE
- Meet as a Governing Body to finalise the Funding Agreement

