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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Forrest

Chair of Governors: Mrs Evonne Williams

Friday 17th March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to inform you of the discussions that have been taking place between ourselves and a group of schools in the locality - Beaufort Community Primary School, Borrow Wood Primary School, Cherry Tree Hill Primary School, Oakwood Junior School, Portway Junior School and Springfield Primary School. During the past 15-18 months, we have been exploring the different options that are available to us, as our schools continue to improve and develop. We have taken the view that the best route for our schools is to create our own Multi Academy Trust (MAT). A MAT is a group of schools formally joining together, with many common goals and principles, whilst ensuring that each school's current set of values remain at its' heart.

The reasons for this are as follows:

- We believe that this route will allow our Senior Leaders and Governors to continue to make effective decisions, to create the best learning environment for our pupils.
- Forming our own Trust will enable us to access a significant amount of government funding. This will increase the amount of money we are able to spend on the pupils' teaching and learning. In turn this will allow us to function more efficiently as a school by sharing strengths, expertise and resources.
- As Senior Leaders, we greatly value the ability to remain connected to our pupils, staff and community. Our group of schools is based in Derby City and has strong links with other local schools, something that we are keen to maintain.
- Creating a MAT is an opportunity for the schools within it to share their skills, knowledge, experience and resources amongst one another for the benefit of the children.

This letter is to keep you informed about these developments, protecting all that is good about our own individual school and its' community, whilst benefitting from a close collaboration with others. The everyday business of our school would be unaffected for pupils, parents and staff.

When we have more details, we will write to you again and at an appropriate time, begin a formal consultation process. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us with any observations or views.

Yours sincerely

Evonne Williams
Chair of Governors

Karen Forrest
Headteacher