

A new federation



THE SAXONBURY FEDERATION
of Frant and Mark Cross Church of England Primary Schools





Proposal to Federate

The Aspire & Saxonbury Federations

Chair of Governors (A): David Robson

Chair of Governors (S): Allison Holton

What is Federation?

- A formal association with one Executive Headteacher across the four schools
- One Governing Board for the four schools
- All schools retain their identity and remain separate schools in that...
- ...they receive separate budgets, separate Ofsted and SIAMS inspections, and separate admissions



Why Federate further?

- Working as one for the benefit of all pupils but with each school retaining its own identity
- Will secure sustainable leadership for the four schools in a changing educational environment
- Provides a greater opportunity for staff development
- Provides security to our smaller village schools
- Opportunity for cost savings through resource sharing and better support systems



What are the benefits?

The children

- Being part of a wider school community supports personal development and transition
- More opportunities for a wider curriculum and extra-curricular activities
- Increase in potential for engagement in team sports
- Collaborative working between the staff provides better teaching and learning and support for pupils



What are the benefits?

The Staff

- Joint staff training and planning
- Broader expertise base
- Sharing expertise and peer support
- More attractive staff recruitment and retention
- Better career progression opportunities



What are the benefits?

The Parents & Carers

- Retained access to local schools and sense of community
- Children who benefit from an enhanced and improving education
- Opportunities for Parent Associations eg 'Friends of' to engage in joint activities
- Pride in children attending a recognised school of excellence



What are the challenges?

- Leadership of four schools – the changing role of the Headteacher (thus EHT) and Governors
- Understanding the difference between strategic and operational and why this is important for schools
- Accepting the changes which are being imposed upon our schools (why can't things be as they were when I was a child?)



What are the challenges?

- Designing an effective and efficient means of governance
- Finding the right people for governance – availability, skill sets and sense of duty (voluntary)



When and How?

- Consultation period ends on **5th April 2019**
- Both governing bodies will meet formally to consider responses and reach a decision on whether to federate or not
- If agreed the Federation will start on **1st September 2019**
- Parent and staff governor elections will take place in **Term 6**



How do I express my views?

- Opportunity today to express your views
- Written comments via the school offices or through email to your Chair of Governors*
- Drop-in sessions with your HoS

* drobson@mayfieldcep.e-sussex.sch.uk

a.holton@markcrossce.e-sussex.sch.uk





Any questions?