



Sawley Infant School & Nursery & Sawley Junior School



Wilmot Street, Sawley, Long Eaton, Nottingham NG10 3DQ

Infants & Nursery Tel: 0115 973 2652 e-mail enquiries@sawley-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk

Juniors - Tel: 0115 973 3626 e-mail: info@sawley-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

31st March, 2014

Consultation regarding conversion of Sawley Junior School and Sawley Infants & Nursery School to an academy within a Multi-Academy Trust

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Governing Bodies of Dovedale Primary School, Shardlow Primary School, Sawley Junior School and Sawley Infants & Nursery School are proposing to establish a Multi-Academy Trust.

The Governing Bodies of each school have registered an interest with the Department for Education (DfE) of their intention to consult with parents/carers and other stakeholders/interested parties on conversion to an academy.

This consultation is about what is best for our schools and how we can ensure our children receive an excellent education with a wide range of opportunities and experiences available to them. Therefore, the Governors would very much welcome your views on our intention to form an Academy.

You are invited to attend an Open Evening to discuss the details of this consultation on the 30th April. Drop in any time between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. The Chairs of Governors, head teachers and senior leaders will be at the meeting and we welcome your comments and any questions you may have.

The primary concerns of the Governing Body are for the welfare of the children that attend the school and to ensure the quality of educational provision. The Governing Body believes that academy status will assist in this undertaking and benefit the school for the following reasons:

- It will give the school access to additional funding which is currently retained by the local authority.
- Converting as a multi-academy trust rather than a single school brings additional financial benefits.
- Closer collaboration between schools will provide opportunities to develop initiatives which might be too costly or time consuming for an individual school.
- Purchasing services and resources across a group of schools reduces costs and enables services to be more tailored to our needs.
- Freedom to agree and establish our own curriculum and share staff expertise across the four schools.

The day to day running of the school will continue to remain the same for our pupils. The main change will be the way funding comes into the schools which will be directly from central government; the school will be responsible for allocating their own budget in accordance with the schools priorities.

It is important to state at this point that it is the intention of the Governing Body that the school maintains its unique characteristics and ethos. There are no plans to:

- make alterations to the school uniform
- change the school name
- alter the employment rights of the staff
- make alterations to the school year or the school day

This consultation will close on 21st May 2014. If you have any queries in the meantime please write to the Chairs of Governors via the school office, marking the envelope 'Academy Consultation' or email:-

- enquiries@sawley-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk – for the infant and nursery school
- info@sawley-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk – for the junior school

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the consultation meeting to discuss this exciting development in our school's future.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Daniel Walton
Chair of Governors
Sawley Junior School

Jon Brewster
Chair of Governors
Sawley Infants & Nursery School