

## Ravensdale Junior School

Devonshire Drive

Mickleover

Derby DE3 9EY

Tel: 01332 512373

[admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk)

17th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

After lengthy research and careful consideration, the Local Governing Body of Ravensdale Junior School has voted to begin the formal process of consultation with you to consider the conversion of the school into an Academy and also to consider joining Transform Trust. An Academy is a publicly-funded all-ability local school which is independent from Local Authority control. Transform Trust is a Nottingham and Derby based Multi Academy Trust, who also run a Teaching School. <http://www.transformtrust.co.uk/>

The formal consultation period opens at **8am on Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018** and we will be holding meetings with parents, staff and other stakeholders during that time in order to hear their views. **The consultation period will run from 8am Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 until 4pm Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018.** As a part of that process we would like to invite you to attend a parent/carer information meeting about Academy conversion, where you will have the opportunity to express your views and raise any questions or concerns.

Following the consultation period, it will be for the Local Governing Body to consider all the comments and opinions expressed during the consultation process and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State.

**As well as the information below, there is further information on the school website, under the tab 'Information for Parents'.**

**What is the main motivation for converting to academy status?**

- To shape the provision to meet the future needs of our children, families and communities based on a local and collaborative proposal of working together and building on existing good practice.
- We will remain in charge of our own destiny as the government has a goal to encourage all schools to be academies or working towards academy status by 2022.
- The Local Authority (LA) capacity is disappearing. Pooling the resources of a number of schools means we can re-create some of the services once received from the LA.
- To develop the expertise of all staff to further improve effectiveness and outcomes for children.
- To generate financial efficiencies to invest back into the classroom for the benefit of the children.

**Headteacher: Zoe Cannon**

### **What is the main motivation for joining Transform Trust?**

- The values and vision of Transform are strongly aligned to those at Ravensdale.
- The Trust has a very strong record of supporting schools to improve.
- Transform provides a high level of support, whilst continuing to allow a high level of autonomy for the school.
- The trust leads a variety of school in both Derby and Nottingham, providing opportunities to work with schools in another authority, but who are geographically near enough to make this possible.

### **Key facts for parents and carers:**

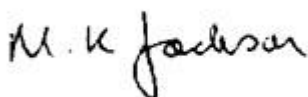
- The school is not proposing to change its character and will continue to look, feel and be the same as it is now
- The School Leadership team and Governing Body will continue to run the school daily as they do now, and parents will continue to be represented on the Governing Body
- The name of the school will not change, and the school will not change its admissions policy
- Children with special needs will continue to receive additional support in the way they do now
- We will continue to work closely with the infants to provide the best level of continuity of the children.
- The multi-academy trust arrangements will share some central services across the schools which will help them be more efficient and make sure that funding is focused on teaching, learning and support for children
- The multi-academy trust will work very closely and co-operatively with local partners, including other schools, community groups and organisations, and the local authority.

**The meeting for Parents and Carers will be held in the school hall on Wednesday 14th November 2018 at 6.30pm.**

Present at this meeting will be the Headteacher, members of the Local Governing Body and Transform Trust. We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

**Please would you complete and return the attached form so that we know how many people will be attending.**

Yours sincerely



Mr. M. Jackson and Mrs. A. Howells

Co-Chairs of the Governing Body

**Headteacher: Zoe Cannon**

**ACADEMY CONVERSION CONSULTATION - PARENTS/CARERS**

I WILL be attending the meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6.30am.

I CANNOT attend the meeting.

Signed:.....

Parent/Carer of:..... Class.....

If you have any further comments/queries that you would like to raise before the meeting, please add them below and return forms by **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018**, or send an email to [admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk).

**Anonymous comments can be posted in the box in the reception area.**