



*St Francis of Assisi Voluntary Aided  
Church of England Primary School*

*“Live, love and learn together in the light of Christ.”*

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers and Community Members,

**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO JOIN A MULTI ACADEMY TRUST & CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS FOR ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Many of you will be aware that under Government legislation schools can choose to convert to academy status and in Stockton on Tees some schools are already academies or are working towards academy status. The Governing Body of St Francis of Assisi C of E Primary School has been considering carefully the schools' future in a fast-changing and increasingly challenging educational landscape.

Governors have spent time researching and undertaking due diligence and now believe that the best plan moving forwards is for St Francis C of E Primary School to become an academy.

**What is the proposal?**

Our school would like to join with a group of other schools in a Trust called Dales Academies Trust (Dales). This Trust consists of:

1. Ainderby Steeple C of E Primary School
2. All Saints C of E Academy
3. Barton C of E Primary School
4. Croft C of E Primary School
5. East Cowton C of E (VC) Primary School
6. Kirkby Fleetham Cof E Primary School
7. Ravensworth C of E Primary School
8. South Otterington C of E Primary School
9. Trinity Academy Eppleby Forcett
10. Trinity Academy Middleton Tyas
11. Trinity Academy Richmond
12. Thornaby C of E Primary School (currently converting to academy status on 1 July 2019)

Further detail on Dales can be found on their website [www.dalesmat.org](http://www.dalesmat.org)

**How can you find out more and have your say?**

Governors are now entering the consultation phase regarding the proposed conversion of St Francis of Assisi C of E Primary School to academy status. The consultation period will run from 29 April 2019 to the 22 May 2019. Following the consultation, the Governing Body will consider a report on the findings of the consultation at a meeting in early June and this will be made available online to all stakeholders via our school website.

CONT...

Lowfields Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton on Tees, TS17 5GA

Tel: 01642 769942

Email: [stfrancis@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:stfrancis@sbcschools.org.uk)





*St Francis of Assisi Voluntary Aided  
Church of England Primary School*

*"Live, love and learn together in the light of Christ."*

To help parents/carers and the community in developing their knowledge and understanding of what is involved in becoming an academy, we have organised two information/drop in sessions for parents/ carers and the community, which will take place on:

**Tuesday 21 May at School**  
**2.45pm - 3.45pm or**  
**5pm – 6pm**

The sessions will be an opportunity to ask questions about academy status and how this will affect the school and your child(ren). Representatives from Dales, Governors and school leadership will be available to talk to you and you will also be able to register your comments, queries and any thoughts on opportunities or concerns.

We also enclose with this letter a copy of some Frequently Asked Questions, which you may find of interest. On the school website we have created an academy consultation area where you will find a copy of the information sent home today as well as an online questionnaire. Further detail will also be added as it emerges.

We will be consulting on academy status with staff in school on Monday 13 May and we will also be discussing becoming an academy with pupils over the next month. In order that we gather as broad and deep a range of opinions as possible, we strongly urge you to participate by attending the organised information sessions.

If you are unable to attend this session but would like further information or would like to respond to our consultation you can contact the school in the following ways:

- By telephone **01642 769942**
- By email at **stfrancis@sbcschools.org.uk**
- Suggestions box located on the front desk at the main front entrance
- Complete our online survey on the school website: [www.stfrancispri.org.uk](http://www.stfrancispri.org.uk)

We look forward to speaking with you soon and to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs L Probets**  
Head Teacher

**Father Clay Roundtree**  
Chair of Governors

---

I would like to attend the parents/carer consultation meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019

At 2.45-3.45 p.m.

At 5-6 p.m.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

**Lowfields Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton on Tees, TS17 5GA**

**Tel: 01642 769942**

**Email: [stfrancis@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:stfrancis@sbcschools.org.uk)**

