



Inspiring Curiosity • Celebrating Achievement • Nurturing Kindness

Our CARE Values: Compassionate • Aspirational • Respectful • Emotionally Healthy

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Wednesday 24 June 2026

Dear Parents and carers,

ACADEMY CONVERSION: CONSULTATION

As you may be aware, there are a growing number of schools converting to academy status and at Highfield Hall Primary and Nursery School we have been considering the benefits of such a move.

Becoming an academy means the school moving away from the control of the Local Authority.

At Highfield Hall Primary and Nursery School there has been considerable discussion amongst the Governors and staff about whether we should consider a change to academy status. The school and governors have also worked closely with academy Trusts, and particularly the Learners' Trust, to ensure that our decision making was fully informed.

After carefully considering all the factors involved the Governing Body has resolved "that an application be made to convert to academy status as part of a Multi Academy Trust called the Learners' Trust, subject to the outcome of due diligence and the required consultation".

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This means that we are now entering a formal period of consultation with parents, staff and the local community to help us make the decision to either continue with conversion and join the Learners' Trust or not.

In order to find out more about what academy status would mean, please visit our website. A copy of this letter and an explanatory note from the Trust can be found at www.highfieldhall.derbyshire.sch.uk/web/ and further information about the Trust can be found at www.learnerstrust.org .

A meeting for parents will be held on **Wednesday 8th July, 2.45 pm in the main school hall** where you will be able to ask further questions.

At Highfield Primary School our values are based on the "CARE" principles: "we CARE about ourselves, our community and our world. We are **Compassionate, Aspirational, Respectful, and Emotionally Healthy**. We strive to provide an excellent education for the children of local families in collaboration with other local schools, and we believe that the move to academy status will help us to protect and enhance this.

The educational aims of the Trust are as follows:

The Learners' Trust mission is to create equity of opportunity for all learners through supporting schools to provide effective well-being, enrich the lives of their pupils and to have high levels of achievement.

We do this by using three main foci:

1. **Excellent leadership** through coaching, mentoring and effective talent management
2. **Effective delivery** through effective professional development and providing an environment where practitioners can collaborate, learn from each other, take risks and reflect
3. **Early adaptation** through intervention at the earliest opportunity to make sure no child is ignored, no family is unsupported and no life chances are wasted

We are very interested to hear your views on our proposed change to academy status. If you wish to respond to this consultation you can email your views to info@highfieldhall.derbyshire.sch.uk

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The consultation period will end on 24th July @ 17:00. Please include your name as well as the name and class of your son or daughter.

Thank you for your continued support of Highfield Hall Primary School and we look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Yeowart

Mike Bywaters

Chair of Governors

Headteacher

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