

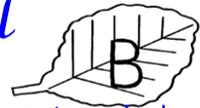
# *Beecholme Primary School*

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Interim Head Teacher: Ms Darra McFadyen

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March

## **ACADEMY CONSULTATION THE PROPOSED CONVERSION OF BEECHOLME PRIMARY SCHOOL TO AN ACADEMY WITH CHIPSTEAD VALLEY ACADEMY TRUST AS SPONSOR**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to be able to write to you on behalf of the governing body. Recent communication with you has indicated that the expectation of the Department for Education (DfE) is that schools that are placed in special measures become sponsored Academies.

We have previously let you know that we have concluded our discussions about this with the local authority and DfE and are pleased the school's and the local authority's preferred sponsor partner has been accepted as a way forward by the DfE. The intended date for the conversion is 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 subject to us consulting with you and the school receiving an Academy Order which is an 'in principle' agreement from Secretary of State for the school to convert to an academy and join the Chipstead Valley Academy Trust.

We have been involved in discussions with Chipstead Valley Academy Trust to ensure that, subject to consultation and the school receiving an Academy Order, there is a smooth transition with the aim of providing the best possible standard of education for the children before the conversion. In the months ahead the school will very much be focussed on implementing its Ofsted Action Plan.

DfE has agreed to the school's and local authority's preferred choice of Chipstead Valley as its sponsor partner because it has a successful track record and the capability and capacity to support other schools to improve teaching and learning and raise standards.

The governing body was pleased to meet with so many parents on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> to consult on the proposal to convert.

The consultation now underway has been designed to gather as wide a range of views as possible. It is important you have your say and the school will take account of your views and consider them carefully. At the meetings last week, parents were also invited to send to me any further questions or requests for information they may have about Chipstead Valley Academy Trust. Details about how you can do this are set out below. Please do take this opportunity if you wish.

The consultation meetings for parents were an initial opportunity for parents to ask questions, seek further information and express their views. We were pleased to receive comments and questions from parents during the meeting.

### **How can parents continue respond to the consultation?**

**There are two main ways to seek information, ask question and express your views. This is by email or letter.**

1. Please send email responses to the Chair of Governors using the following school email address:

chairofgovernors@beecholme.merton.sch.uk

2. Please send letters marked 'For the Attention of Chair of Governors' using the school address so they can be quickly forwarded on. If you prefer you will be able to post your response in a box at the school office, please mark your letter as 'For the Attention of Chair of Governors'

3. We were pleased to be able to invite Mr Mark Rosewell, Executive Headteacher of Chipstead Valley to the consultation meetings with parents on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March. If you have any questions of the trust, please send them to the Chair of Governors by email or letter as described above and these will be forwarded.

The intention is for the consultation to end at 4.00pm on Thursday 24th March. You can find the notes of the consultation meetings held for parents on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March on the school website. You will be able to see the questions that were asked and the responses. We will continue to update you about any developments. We very much look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Moody  
Chair of Governors