

West Melton Primary School
Stokewell Road
West Melton
Rotherham
S63 6NF

Head Teacher - Mrs Z. Norris
Deputy Head - Mrs. K. Gaunt
Assistant Head - Mrs.L Arnold
Tel 01709 760538
Fax 01709 760837

Wednesday 9th November 2016

Email: west-melton.junior-infant@rotherham.gov.uk
Website: www.westmeltonprimary.co.uk

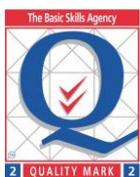
'Striving for success with pride and happiness'

Dear Parents, Carers,

Senior leaders and Governors at West Melton Primary are aware that education is experiencing a time of economic and strategic challenge. We are facing tighter budgets from central government and the local authority is shrinking; austerity measures have resulted in reduced services being available to school. Schools across the country are being encouraged to work more closely together, to provide mutual support and share expertise across partnerships. The Governing Body and I have researched and decided that to academise now would be in the best interest for our school and would be a positive and proactive step that would help to address all of these issues.

A Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) is a group of Academies forming a legal partnership. They are overseen by Members and a Board of Trustees to take strategic decisions across the group of schools. Under this Board sit the Governing Bodies of each individual school, who still retain autonomy in making decisions that affect the children of that school. The day to day running of the school will remain unchanged. Each Governing Body in the MAT will continue to monitor the quality of education, safeguarding, and Health and Safety in its own school. There will be no changes to the senior leadership in school and I will still remain as the Headteacher.

The Governors and I feel that to attempt to stand alone, either as we are now or as an academy, would not be our best option. We have looked for an umbrella organisation to join which would facilitate economies of scale and the opportunity to share resources, subject specialisms and work together with like-minded colleagues to the benefit of our children.



We are working with Wickersley School & Sports College this year and I am certain we will find this partnership extremely beneficial to all.

Wickersley has three secondary schools in its' Trust (Wickersley Partnership Trust) and it has set up a primary branch in which our school would be one of the members.

We have researched Wickersley Partnership Trust and we have worked within it and now decided to formally join this Multi-Academy Trust, and we have absolutely no doubt that it represents a massive opportunity and the Governors and I unanimously feel it is the right decision to have made. Although we will be part of WPT, pupils from our school will still participate on transition days and events at Wath Comprehensive School and it will remain as our feeder school.

I am aware that many parents did not attend the vision/academy information event last term, so if you have any questions about this process, please complete and return the comment box below by Friday 18th November. All questions will be collated and answered. We will include a FAQ guide on our website.

Yours sincerely

R Peel

Mrs R Peel

Chair of Governing Body

Z Norris

Mrs Z Norris

Headteacher

Multi-Academy Trust Conversion - Proforma

Signed by:	
Child's name:	
Child's class	