

# Benwick Primary School



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17 April 2018

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Members of the Community

## **CONSULTATION FOR ACADEMY CONVERSION TO JOIN THE LIME TRUST**

### **Background**

The Governing Body has been considering carefully the future strategy for Benwick Primary School given the wider Government policy on education and the running of schools.

Our priority is to enable the school to continue to provide an excellent education for all our children while protecting our role at the heart of the community and retaining the school's unique qualities and strengths.

Our school is performing well. However, with ongoing reductions in Local Authority support for schools we need to access high quality support and challenge by working in partnership with other primary schools that share our ambition for success.

### **Proposal**

After investigating different academy models and multi-academy trusts, the Governing Body believes the school should convert to academy status and join The Lime Trust. Their ethos of 'putting children first' and 'supporting local communities' are values we also hold dear.

Therefore on 8 March 2018 the Governors passed a resolution to convert to academy status with The Lime Trust. The Governing body believes this is the best way to improve outcomes and standards across the School.

The Governing Body is therefore seeking to consult with parents, carers, staff and members of the local community about conversion to an Academy.

Further information about the Lime Trust and what it means to become an Academy can be found in the attached Frequently Asked Questions booklet.

The consultation period will run from 17 April 2018 to 24 May 2018. We will be holding 3 meetings on the 2 May 2018 at 8.30am, 3.30pm and 6pm where members of the Governing Body and the Lime Trust team will be available to answer any questions you may have. We would very much like to meet you at one of these meetings.

Please complete the attached consultation questionnaire and return to school by 24 May 2018 or email Claire Keefe with any questions you may have. Email: [consultation@limetrust.london](mailto:consultation@limetrust.london).

The Governing Body will then consider a report on the academy consultation before making a final decision on the proposal. The school would then convert by 1 September 2018 subject to completion of legal and project tasks.

Yours sincerely



**Mandi Papworth-Boston**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**Benwick Primary School**



**Mrs J North**  
**HeadTeacher**  
**Benwick Primary School**



## **ACADEMY CONVERSION CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

*Please complete this questionnaire which will be considered by Governors and the Lime Trust team to enable us to address and respond to any questions you may have.*

**Name:** .....

**Name of Child/ren:** .....

**1. Do you have any questions or comments about the proposal for Benwick Primary School to become an Academy and join the Lime Trust?**

**2. What do you see as the main benefits of becoming an Academy?**

**3. What do you see as the disadvantages of becoming an Academy?**

All responses are confidential. If you prefer, responses can be returned in sealed envelopes marked 'consultation questionnaire'. Please return this questionnaire to the School by **Thursday 24 May 2018.**

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our consultation events on **Wednesday 2 May 2018** where you can find out more about the Lime Trust, speak to Governors and ask any questions you may have.