

Clutton Primary School
Station Rd
Clutton
Bristol BS39 5RA



Tel/Fax: 01761 452510
clutton_pri@bathnes.gov.uk
www.cluttonschool.com

Headteacher: *Mrs Michelle Parsons NPQH, M.A., B.Ed*

Friday 12th December 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past few years many schools have successfully converted to academy status and since the majority of secondary schools have now converted, many primary schools are now starting to look at the right move for them for the future. The Governing Body of Clutton Primary School has for some time been considering whether it is right for our school and more recently we have had a working party looking at the advantages and disadvantages of doing so. We have explored various options for the best future of our school and have recently been in discussion with Norton Hill and Somervale Secondary Schools about working in closer partnership.

On Wednesday 19th November 2014, the Governing Body of the school unanimously voted to enter into a period of consultation with regard to joining formally with Norton Hill and Somervale schools in a Multi-Academy Trust. The governors and I believe that this action would bring a number of key benefits for Clutton Primary School and more importantly our children. I have detailed some of these below:

- Better teaching and learning across all the schools in the partnership with Clutton benefiting from expertise in Science, for example, and Norton Hill and Somervale school benefiting from our expertise in the teaching of literacy.
- Increased access to specialist facilities including those used for science, sport, technology and art.
- Improved transition for Year 6 pupils most of whom attend one of the two local schools.
- Greater economies of scale to allow capital investment in building and facilities at Clutton.
- Support with procurement of service such as school meals, site management, health and safety, finance, etc.

Nationally, many primary schools are working in this way with local secondary schools and in terms of the day-to-day feel of our school, there would be very little difference to that which is experienced currently. The structure of the leadership team here would also remain the same with me as Headteacher making the day-to-day decisions and contributing to the strategic leadership with our Governing Body. Our strong working relationship with other schools would also not be affected.

The Governing Body and I hope that you will see the many benefits to this course of action and will wish to support it. We firmly believe that becoming part of this Multi-Academy Trust and working closely with the two local secondary schools, and at present one local primary school, High Littleton, would allow us to continue to offer the best possible experience of primary schooling for your children. We very much value your views and thoughts and have arranged a parent consultation meeting for Wednesday 21st January 2015 from 7pm to 8pm in the school. This will give you an opportunity to listen to a presentation from myself and the governing body and add your own comments. Any views expressed will be captured and included in the final considerations of the Governing Body.

Please find attached a Consultation Document and a series of Frequently Asked Questions, which outline the school's proposals and address the issues raised. Should you wish to make any comment, please email the school at clutton_pri@bathnes.gov.uk or complete and return the form on the Consultation Document by Friday 6th February 2015.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Parsons
Headteacher