

What's happening?

The governing bodies are proposing to change the status of Delph Primary School, Diggle Primary School, and Knowsley Junior School from community to foundation schools and at the same time to establish Dovestone Learning Partnership.

How can people become involved?

The consultation is open to everyone who might be affected by the proposed changes: pupils, parents, staff, governors, potential partners and the wider community.

You will be able to respond in writing— questionnaires will be sent to all stakeholders.

You will be able to attend information meetings. There will be people during the consultation period, that you can ask to speak to who will answer your questions and take note of your views.

Governors will take account of feedback before making a decision on whether to proceed with the idea.

What do I need to do now?

The consultation process will begin on 28 April 2017. You can find out more by reading booklet one and booklet two, on the school websites or attending meetings where there will be opportunity for you to ask any questions and access any further information from the school and a representative from the Trust..

Process Timescale

Six week consultation with parents, carers, pupils, staff and community begins noon Friday 28 April 2017 to noon on Wednesday 21 June 2017

Consultation Meetings :

Delph Primary School 4 May 2017

Staff meeting 3.30 pm

Parents/Carers 5.00 pm

Open meeting 6.00 pm

Diggle Primary School 9 May 2017

Staff meeting 3.30 pm

Parents/Carers 5.00 pm

Open meeting 6.00 pm

Knowsley Junior School 3 May 2017

Staff meeting 3.30 pm

Parents/Carers 5.00 pm

Open meeting 6.00 pm

Information Meetings

Saddleworth School 6.00 pm 15 May 2017

St Agnes CE Primary School 6.00 pm 24 May 2017

Christ Church Denshaw CE Primary 5.00 pm 8 May 2017

St Marys CE Primary Greenfield 5.00 pm 25 May 2017

St Thomas CE Primary Leesfield 5.00 pm 23 May 2017

Dovestone Learning Partnership

Delph Primary School, Diggle Primary School, and Knowsley Junior School have the opportunity to establish a Co-operative Learning Trust in partnership with Saddleworth School

St Agnes CE Primary School

Christchurch Denshaw CE Primary School

St Mary's CE Primary School

St Thomas' Leesfield CE Primary School



This leaflet has been written to introduce the idea to you with some initial information.

What is the trust?

A Trust school is a local authority maintained school which is supported by a charitable trust. Trusts can be set up by individual schools or groups of schools usually involve collaboration with partners. The listed schools are interested in the Co-operative Trust model.

The Co-operative Trust links schools together mutually using co-operative principles, which re-enforce our schools ethos, and allows stakeholders to become members of the Trust.

If we became a Trust, what would stay the same and what would change?

Stay the same: The school would continue to teach the National Curriculum, receive funding through the Local Authority, follow the schools admissions code and receive periodic visits from OFSTED.

The school's governing body would be responsible for running the school. Teachers would automatically continue to be employed on the same terms and conditions and Governors would make sure that this was also true for support staff.

The day to day running of the school and organisation will not change or feel any different.

Change: The school Governing body would employ staff, not the local authority.

School assets (grounds and buildings) would be held by the Trust rather than the local authority. The Trust appoint other governors to support and strengthen the governing body.

The Trust also sets up a Stakeholders Forum to represent the views of all the members of the Trust, including parents, carers, staff, pupils and the local community.

If so much is going to stay the same why change?

The chief reasons for change are to build on and re-enforce our commitment to our community, to continue to improve the quality of and raise standards in education and increase life chances and opportunity for our children. We think that, by working more closely together, we can be more successful schools.

We already encourage active citizenship in our schools and this model would help us to involve staff and pupils more in the running of the school and to work closely with parents and the local community.

Trust status will help us to establish strong, long term partnerships with key partners who would help increase resources and opportunities for staff and pupils: at a time when the role and function of Local Education Authorities is being greatly and rapidly reduced.

We feel that we will be better able to serve our local school communities by working together to raise standards and aspirations, increase opportunities and provide greater social cohesion.

DOVESTONE

LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

This leaflet provides an overall summary of the full consultation Booklet One, "Changing from a Community to Foundation School Category and Acquiring a Charitable Trust"

This is available from the schools' offices and websites. Similarly available in Booklet Two, "Questions and Answers"

All responses given at the consultation meetings will be minuted and presented to governors at a meeting to be held w/c 26 June 2017.

Written responses should be made by completing the questionnaire and returning it to one of the schools by noon on Wednesday 21 June 2017.