



Edmondsley Primary School

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County Durham
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Head Teacher: Mrs A Rees
Deputy Head: Mrs V Wood

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Consultation for Edmondsley Primary and Nursery School to join Advance Learning Partnership (ALP) Multi Academy Trust (MAT)

The Governing Body of Edmondsley Primary and Nursery School is considering becoming a member of the Advance Learning Partnership (ALP) Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). Government policy is very clear that MAT status is something which is strongly supported, and has the potential to drive further improvement in the education system. The governors would like to ensure that our staff, parents and pupils understand our reasons for considering this change and the benefits we believe this opportunity will bring.

As a Governing Body, we are incredibly proud of the achievements of Edmondsley Primary and Nursery School, its pupils and its staff. We have worked hard over the years to grow and develop our school and are keen for this continue long into the future. However, it has become increasingly clear that continued changes to the way the state education system is organized and funded, requires increased collaborative working in partnership with others. A Multi Academy Trust is a formal partnership of schools, all with unique identities and features, working together as part of a single Trust. Through a MAT we can collaborate with, learn from, and gain support from other schools.

Collaborative working offers many benefits for pupils and staff; sharing best practice in teaching and learning, curriculum collaboration, extra-curricular opportunities, staff development, human resources, legal services, school improvement structures and governance arrangements. We also believe that by working together we can make our money go further and keep school funding focused on teaching and learning.

We believe that the Advance Learning Partnership shares our ethos of full inclusion, high expectations, outstanding teaching and learning and a relentless focus on the needs and potential of every child. We believe that joining ALP could strengthen both the MAT and our school, providing access to far wider educational and personal development opportunities for our pupils and staff.

We will continue to have our own local governing body, called an Academy Council, providing the support and challenge for the leadership of our school and the Academy Council would include membership from parents of children who attend our school.

How do I learn more, and how do I respond to the consultation?

Consultation will begin today, 28th February 2024 and will end on 8am Wednesday 3rd April 2024 when Governors will consider all responses.

This letter, together with the attached frequently asked questions (FAQs) document provides you with relevant information.

Also, if you wish to discuss this further with the Headteacher, please feel free to contact Mrs Angela Rees in school through the normal channels and she will be more than happy to meet with you.

Our Governing Body would very much like to hear your opinion and would encourage you to respond to the consultation. Please email any comments to edmondsley@durhamlearning.net by the deadline of Wednesday 3rd April 2024.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and I look forward to us working together to ensure Edmondsley Primary and Nursery School remains at the heart of our community, serving and supporting our children and young people and ensuring that every pupil receives an outstanding education.

Yours sincerely,

Chair of Governors