

De Bohun Primary School

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Friday 2 February 2024

Consultation for Possible Conversion to Academy Status for De Bohun Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you all to start a consultation process with regards to the possible conversion of De Bohun Primary School to an Academy as part of a Multi-Academy Trust.

As Governors, it is our responsibility to ensure that the school provides the best possible opportunity for our children to fulfil their potential. Despite our school being in a strong position, with senior leadership and all staff constantly striving to improve our children's education, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get the resources needed to maintain the excellent standards we expect.

For some time, there has been a push from the Government for schools to become part of an academy trust. Whilst this is not yet compulsory, we have been researching the potential benefits and drawbacks of doing so. We feel that converting to an academy now would benefit our school, give us more control over the process and most importantly for De Bohun, allow us to join a Multi-Academy Trust whose ethos and values are in line with our own. A key condition for us is to ensure that our own identity and autonomy are maintained.

With this in mind, we have agreed to consult with our school community - parents, staff & children - about the possibility of converting to an academy and potentially joining the Ivy Learning Trust. We are very keen to hear and consider the opinions and any concerns from our families before making a final decision. We want to hear from as many of you as possible from across the school community, whether you wish to show your support for this idea or share any issues you might see.

What happens next:

- The statutory consultation starts on **Friday 2 February** and will run until **Friday 15 March**.
- We have created a frequently asked questions (FAQs) document to provide further information. This is available from our School Office and will be sent to all parents & carers.
- Parents and carers are invited to attend a meeting to find out more on **Tuesday 6 February at 9:00am** in the main hall and at **7:00pm on Zoom** (link to be sent out nearer the time).
- If you have any queries that are not answered in the FAQs that you would like answered at these meetings, please send them via email to office@debohun.enfield.sch.uk. Please ensure any questions are marked with the title "FAO Governing Body".

All responses will be considered in preparation for the Full Governors Meeting to be held at the end of the consultation period where a final decision about whether to join the Ivy Learning Trust will be made.

We look forward to receiving your questions and comments.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Downes

Chair of Governors



"From possibility to reality..."