



West Kingsdown CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. S Phillips B.A. (NPQH)

28 January 2015

To all members of the West Kingsdown CE Primary School Community

Public Consultation on West Kingsdown CE Primary School converting to Academy Status

You will, I hope, be aware of the proposal to convert West Kingsdown CE Primary School into an Academy.

The Governors made a decision in January 2014 to become an academy under the Rochester Diocesan Multi Academy Trust. We believe that a change in status to being part of the Trust will provide the school with new opportunities and increased freedom, allowing continued progress in the school's improvement journey to become an outstanding school.

From **Wednesday 28 January**, a consultation will be underway to gather views from the wider community on this proposal. The consultation period will run until **Wednesday 4 March** (at 5pm). The question asked during the consultation is:

"Do you think the Academy Arrangements (i.e. the Funding Agreement) for the School should be entered into?"

You can find out more by reading the fact sheet enclosed with this letter or you can visit the school website www.west-kingsdown.kent.sch.uk You can also find out more about the Trust at www.rdat.org.uk

There are a number of ways you can make your views known:

- by filling in and returning the attached questionnaire
- electronically via email at Alex.Tear@rochester.anglican.org or office@west-kingsdown.kent.sch.uk at our consultation event (see below for date)
- by post/by hand to: Alex Tear, Director, Rochester Diocesan Board of Education, Rochester Diocesan Academy Trust, St Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester, ME1 1SL

We will be holding public meetings for the community to discuss the proposal where you may ask questions as follows. All are welcome.

- **Community Meetings – Thursday 26 February 2014**, 9-10:15am and 6-7:15pm at West Kingsdown CE Primary Fawkham Road, West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6PJ

If you would like a one-to-one meeting with the sponsor, or pick up further factsheets and copies of the questionnaire, please contact West Kingsdown CE Primary by email: office@west-kingsdown.kent.sch.uk or telephone 01474 853484.

The governors are mindful of their public sector equality duty arising from the Equality Act 2010 and will work with the Trust in the development of any final proposals to mitigate the likelihood of any adverse impact.

If you are, or become, aware during this consultation process of any impact on members of the school community who share a relevant protected characteristic (e.g. age; disability; gender re-assignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation) then please contact West Kingsdown CE Primary by email: office@west-kingsdown.kent.sch.uk or telephone 01474 853484.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to make sure your view is part of the consultation process. Please find enclosed a consultation questionnaire and a factsheet outlining details of the proposal, which may answer some of your initial questions.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger E. Brindle". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Roger Brindle

Chair of Governors, West Kingsdown CE Primary School