



Nanledra School
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Headteacher:

Mr. R. Gill

19th February 2016

Conversion to Academy with Truro and Penwith Academy Trust

Dear stakeholder,

I am writing to inform you that following agreement by the Board of Governors, our school is now actively pursuing conversion to Academy status within the Truro and Penwith Academy Trust. Our governors have concluded that conversion is in the best interests of our school and would be a positive development for the future of Nanledra School.

This is a time of enormous and very rapid change in our education system which is taking place alongside a transformation in the funding and responsibilities of our Local Authority. Governors now believe that preserving and developing the character and ethos of our school is best achieved by converting to academy status.

Our priority is to enable the school to continue to provide an excellent education for our children while protecting the school's role at the heart of the community and retaining the school's unique qualities and strengths. We recognise that the Local Authority's role in supporting education is diminishing and that it is government policy to encourage effective schools to become academies.

Following several discussions, presentations and research, the Board of Governors believe the best solution for our school is to join the Multi Academy Trust (MAT) set up by Truro & Penwith College in 2014. There are already a number of schools in this MAT in both Penwith and the Truro area including St Ives School. This was a significant factor in our selection of this Trust because the vast majority of our children over the years have continued their education at St Ives School and then Penwith & Truro College.

Truro & Penwith Academy Trust (TPAT) offers a local partnership structure to our school which I believe is sustainable and will provide secure opportunities for raising standards of teaching and learning by building on the existing links and relationships in West Cornwall. More importantly, TPAT has proven, so far, to be committed to the independent character of the schools within the trust.

PTO

David Walrond (Principal, Truro Penwith College) and Jenny Blunden (Chief Executive, TPAT) have both expressed the view that schools should be firmly rooted in their communities; something we value very highly at Nancledra.

The Board of Governors has therefore voted to consult on joining the trust with a view to converting to academy status on 1st September 2016. There will be a consultation period between 6th January 2016 and 24th March 2016, during which time we will hold meetings with parents, staff and pupils.

We are also consulting members of the community to hear your views and establish if there is any substantial or significant objection that would require the Board of Governors to reconsider.

Please find attached a short questionnaire which, if you are able to complete, we would be grateful to receive at school by 21st March 2016.

In the meantime I am, as always, available to answer questions and hear your views.

Yours sincerely

Rick Gill