



Longmeadow Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mr Toby Mills-Bishop

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21/04/2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Consultation on Conversion to Academy Status

You may be aware that Agora Learning Partnership Multi-Academy Trust (ALP MAT) has been working very closely with Longmeadow Primary School over the past year, implementing a school improvement programme.

After careful consideration and discussion, the school's Governing Body has decided that they wish to convert to academy status and join ALP MAT. We are at the start of the process and currently, our aim would be to convert to become an academy on 1st January 2024.

We are writing to staff, parents and other key stakeholders to invite views.

What is an academy?

Academies are publicly funded state schools which are independent of the Local Authority and receive funding directly from central government.

Why are we looking to become an academy?

We believe that becoming part of the ALP MAT is the right thing for the school. The additional freedoms and flexibilities that academy status offers, and the formal partnership across the MAT, will provide a framework of support and greater opportunities for collaboration and enrichment.

The ALP is an established Multi-Academy Trust, consisting of nine primary schools. The ALP has a proven track record of school improvement and promotes collaboration between schools in the Partnership to ensure all children, Trust-wide, receive the very best education.

Will any changes to the school be made as a result of conversion?

Please be assured that the unique character, ethos and values of the school would remain unchanged should academy conversion take place.



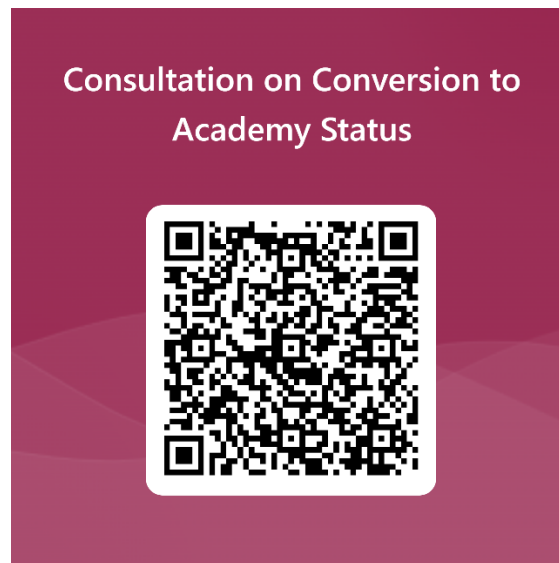
It is unlikely that there would be any noticeable changes on a day-to-day basis. All schools in the ALP MAT would continue to function as individual schools. There are no proposals at this stage to change the uniform, annual admission arrangements, or the general management and planning of the school day for our children.

Staff would transfer across to the employment of the ALP MAT at the point of conversion; there would be detailed consultation with staff as part of this transfer process.

How to take part in the consultation?

We are consulting with a number of stakeholders, including you, to seek your views on whether we should convert to become an academy and we will carefully consider all responses that we receive.

If you would like to respond to this consultation, we would ask that you let us have your views by completing either an online survey using this link <https://forms.office.com/e/XdDU520Jj2>, by printing a PDF version of the consultation form which is attached with this letter or by scanning the QR code below.



Paper copies can be posted or handed to the school office.

The consultation will close **on Friday 12th May 2023 at 12 noon**, so please submit any surveys prior to this date.

Yours sincerely,

Chair of Governors
Melany Knowles

Executive Headteacher
Tobias Mills-Bishop