



**St Barnabas C of E Primary School**  
**Jubilee Terrace**  
**Leeman Road**  
**York, YO26 4YZ**  
**Tel: 01904 653323**  
**Email: [stbarnabas@york.gov.uk](mailto:stbarnabas@york.gov.uk)**

**Headteacher: Miss K Boardman (BSc Hons)**

*"Barnabas, the Encourager"*

5<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

**Consultation on St Barnabas' Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School becoming an academy, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

You may be aware that throughout the country, schools are gradually becoming academies under a policy first introduced by the previous government and developed under this present government.

Many schools in York have made this change, whilst many others have started the process of consulting to convert to academy status. Becoming an academy now generally means becoming part of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) where a group of schools work closely together and where appropriate, share resources to provide better learning opportunities for our children.

Over the last year the governing body has been considering academisation. Having investigated various options at length, governors have agreed that the time is right to consult about becoming an academy and joining a MAT and are keen to explore being part of the Pathfinder MAT. This is a local MAT, currently made up of five schools, including a Church of England secondary school and two Church of England primary schools. The governors feel that the ethos and values of Pathfinder MAT match our own and would support our church school distinctiveness. More information on Pathfinder can be found at [pathfindermat.co.uk](http://pathfindermat.co.uk)

In order to help inform our final decision as to whether or not to become an academy and part of the Pathfinder MAT, governors want to hear the views of parents and will take all responses into account alongside the wide range of information we will gather and assess.

There will therefore be a formal consultation process with parents, staff and the wider community. This consultation period will begin on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and finish on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017. This is a really important decision for the future of our school so please let us know your views and questions as part of the consultation process.

There are a number of ways you can share your views throughout the consultation period:

- Make an appointment to see Miss Boardman and / or Mr Grant (Chair of Governors) at a convenient time
- Speak to Miss Boardman at the start or the end of the day
- Email the school with 'Academy Consultation' in the subject line
- Return the comments sheet included with this letter to your child's class teacher or the school office
- Attend one of the following meetings to be held at school:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2:15pm

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 9am

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 6pm

Please be assured that any decision will be taken by the governing body based on what is best for our children, our families, our staff and our wider community and will fully take into account the views of parents. We hope the information on the following pages addresses many of the questions that you may have in advance of sharing your views.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely



**Mr M Grant**  
**Chair of Governors**



**Miss K Boardman**  
**Headteacher**