



Lord Deramore's  
Primary School

School Lane, Heslington, York, YO10 5EE  
Tel: 01904 553890  
Email: [lordderamores.primary@york.gov.uk](mailto:lordderamores.primary@york.gov.uk)



16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Decision on application to convert to Academy Status and to establish a South York MAT**

We write to inform you of the decision of the governing body of Lord Deramore's Primary School following the consultation on our proposal to establish a South York Multi Academy Trust. The governing body agreed to apply to the Department for Education to convert to academy status and to establish a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) as set out in the proposal. This decision has been taken after considerable deliberation over many months and is rooted in our desire to secure the best future for our school and all those in its community.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the consultation process either in person or via written submission. All responses received were considered and discussed as part of the decision-making process and a response to the key points raised will shortly be circulated to staff and parents and will be shared on our school website.

The other schools named in the consultation document will be making their own individual decisions on academy conversion and MAT membership by the end of term. Once this process is completed we will then know who will seek to join us in the MAT and we can begin to work on the detail of the application process and to make the decisions about the operating arrangements of the MAT- including the phasing of its establishment and expansion. This will be done in discussion with the schools involved, the local authority (City of York Council), the Regional Schools Commissioner, the Church of England Diocese and other relevant parties. All decisions will be rooted in the principle of 'earned autonomy' where maximum authority is delegated to good and outstanding schools. This will include arrangements to maintain governing bodies in each school which will retain both elected parent and staff members.

As mentioned in our proposal, the MAT would become the admissions authority but admission arrangements for the school will remain unchanged. As evidence of this, we hope you will be reassured to know that, as part of the annual consultation on admissions arrangements by City of York Council, the governing body has just agreed to retain the existing catchment area and admissions criteria for 2018/19.

We will write to update you on the progress of the application and conversion process at significant points and when further information is available. We will also provide updates and information on the school website.

This decision represents an exciting opportunity for our school. It will enable us to build upon and strengthen our existing partnership and most importantly allow us to continue to achieve the best possible outcomes for all in our community.

Thank you again to all who participated in this process and for your continuing support for our school.

Yours sincerely

Chair of Governors

Headteacher