



Burford Primary School
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9 February 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

CONVERSION TO ACADEMY STATUS IN THE OXFORD DIOCESAN SCHOOLS TRUST

We wrote on 23 January to tell you about the governors' decision to explore conversion to academy status within the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust. It invited you to a meeting to hear more and to ask questions. Governors would be grateful for your views on whether Burford Primary School should become an academy.

Governors believe that this change will enable us to continue to improve the opportunities we provide for your children and support the school in its future development. If the school becomes an academy it will remain a community school and that character will be protected within the funding agreement for our school between ODST and the Secretary of State. We see this as the next step in our school's development, not a radical change to our children's education.

Academy status will change some things behind the scenes but otherwise you and your children will see very little difference when we make this change. We will continue to work closely with other local primary and secondary schools. The name of the school will not change, the uniform will not change and we will not change term dates or the school's admissions policy. We will continue to provide religious education and assemblies that meet the requirements placed on community schools.

We hope that you will continue to give the Governors and the staff your support in driving our school forward. We have placed on the school's website:

- A copy of the letter of 23 January and of this letter;
- Some more information about Academy status and about ODST;
- A note from ODST on being a community school in ODST.
- A summary of the meeting held on 3 February with a record of questions and answers from the meeting; and
- Some answers to questions asked by parents.

If you have any other questions please write to or email the school and we will add those questions and the answers to the website. Otherwise, if you have any comments you would like to make about the school becoming an Academy within ODST please send them to Zoey Khan, Chair of Governors, via the school office. It would be very helpful to have any comments that parents have by 25 February so we can share them with ODST, the local authority and the DfE who are keen to

have comments as they consider our application for an academy order. The final deadline for comments is 20 March (please note the change in dates, from those given in last week's newsletter).

Governors will consider all comments received when deciding whether our school should have a funding agreement with the Secretary of State to become an academy.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jenny Dyer
Headteacher