



1st February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Wetherby High School is currently a foundation school supported by a Trust known as the Education Trust for Wetherby. Wetherby is the only school in the Trust. The Governing Body is considering removing this Trust status and becoming what is known as a foundation school without a foundation. This is legal terminology which means that we would be withdrawing from this Trust. There would be no change either outside of the school or in the day to day running of it, but what it would do is enable us to look at other options for our school.

Why are we considering this?

Our Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body have been considering partnerships which will be able to support and challenge us as we move forward with our priorities and developments. Following much discussion, we have agreed that this current arrangement of the school and the work of the Trust no longer meets the needs of our school and the community that it serves. We have therefore been looking at the various options available to us in terms of the legal status of the school. After a great deal of thought and discussion, we have decided to explore this option - removing the link with the Trust. This will enable us to look more formally at other partnerships which will provide this additional support. Our links to the British Library, our current Trust partner, will still exist in other ways. We do not need a legal arrangement for this to continue.

The Governing Body at its meeting on 6th December 2018 decided to take this a stage further by agreeing to consult on the proposal to remove the Trust. This Governing Body decision was ratified at a second Governing Body meeting on 20th December 2018. Governors believe removing the link with the Trust will be in the best interests of the students at the school and the school community as a whole. In the current changing landscape, as a Trust with only one school in the partnership, we find it challenging to collaborate effectively.

What we would like you to do

The Governing Body would like to invite comments and representations on the proposal to remove the link with the Trust. Representations can be made from **Friday 1st February 2019**; in an email to: pmegally@wetherbyhigh.co.uk or in writing to: **Mrs L Lakin - Wetherby High School, Hallfield Lane, Wetherby, LS22 6JS**. Alternatively, you can visit the school website for more information and submit a form online. Responses must be received by noon on **Friday 1st March 2019** to be considered. After this date, the Governing Body will then meet to consider any comments made and decide whether to proceed with the proposal.

A public consultation meeting is also being held in school on 12th February at 7.00pm for those who wish to find out more information about the proposal. We consider your views to be very important and hope that you are able to help us to determine the best way forward for our school.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact us through the email address and postal address stated above.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Bentley
Chair of Governors

Mrs L Lakin
Headteacher