

Balcombe C E (C) School

London Road, Balcombe, West Sussex, RH17 6HS



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Friday 20th October 2023

Proposal for Balcombe Church of England Primary School to join the Hurst Education Trust (HET)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wrote to you on Monday 11th September, setting out the governors' proposal, following an extensive due diligence exercise, that our school convert to academy status by joining the Hurst Education Trust. That letter included some information about the Trust, about academy status, and invited stakeholders to meetings held on Thursday 21st September and to comment on the proposals.

A copy of this letter is available on the school website together with an updated frequently asked questions document with answers to all questions that have been submitted. The governors are very grateful to the parents and carers who attended the meeting and have taken the time to comment and ask questions. We also held meetings for all the staff at our school. The team from the Hurst Education Trust outlined the way the Trust works collaboratively with and supports local schools within the Trust, and how Balcombe CofE Primary School and its children will benefit if we join. The answers to questions raised can be found on the 'Frequently Asked Questions' document on our school website:

<file:///C:/Users/chair/Downloads/HET%20Consultation%20FAQs%20Update%2019%20Oct.pdf>

As we reach the end of the consultation, which closes on Thursday 2nd November, we are asking all parents and carers to let us know their view on our school joining the HET. Governors will meet shortly after to decide whether to continue with the proposal, and any comments you make will be considered by governors. We encourage all stakeholders to use this new feedback form to tell us what you think about the proposed conversion, including whether you support the proposal or otherwise before this deadline.

The new feedback form can be accessed using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CFMVVVD> or by using the QR code at the foot of this letter.

Governors and staff are determined to secure the best possible future for our school and to enable the whole school community to grow and develop. Your feedback will greatly assist us in our understanding of the community's views and enable us to fully take this into account when making decisions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Tremble'.

Ian Tremble
Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wendy Millbanks'.

Wendy Millbanks
Headteacher

