



# Aldington Primary School

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Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

At a meeting of the school Governing Body held on 5th July 2017 it was decided to:

- change school category from Community to Foundation;
- join other schools from our CARE group in a shared charitable co-operative Trust named **The CARE Foundation Trust (CARE FT)**, with effect from **1<sup>st</sup> August 2017**
- work with CARE FT as an equal partner with the other schools, in order to ensure our students benefit from a sustainable educational partnership

This follows the consultation and published Statutory Proposals earlier this year.

The decision was taken as the Governing Body believes the Trust will raise standards through the creation of a platform for on-going improvement. The resources and expertise brought to the Trust by the partners will strengthen strategic leadership, increase support and challenge and consolidate effective monitoring, thereby promoting improvement in outcomes for students.

This decision followed a full consultation process during which all relevant parties were consulted and separate consultation meetings were held for staff, parents and carers and the general public. This process indicated very strong levels of support for the proposals.

Statutory guidance was followed and the views of those consulted were considered by the Governing Body before deciding to proceed.

Very little will change from your point of view. The school will continue to be run and managed as before with the additional benefits of Trust partnership and two Foundation Governors within our Governing Body to assist us in our future developments.

The Governing Body will continue to operate the current admissions arrangements in partnership with the Local Authority.

The school's land and assets will be held in trust on behalf of the Governing Body, by the Trust. This will not affect the rights and responsibilities of the Governing Body to act in the best interests of our own pupils in any matters relating to the school premises. The Trust cannot take any actions without our consent or approval.

The Governing Body becomes the employer of our staff – all existing contracts will remain in place unchanged and valid as they stand. There will be no changes to conditions of service, salaries or other matters for our staff team.

We look forward to being an active member of this partnership, but want to assure you that we will remain clearly focused at all times on the needs of the learning community we serve: your children and our families and staff.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me, other members of the Governing Body or the School Leadership Team.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Carney  
Chair of Governors



*Nurture and Challenge*