



Reculver Church of England Primary School

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Friday 13th June 2014

Dear Parents/Carers.

CONVERSION TO ACADEMY STATUS IN THE DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY ACADEMIES TRUST

This letter is to inform you about our plans for Reculver Church of England Primary School to become an Academy within a larger organisation set up by the Diocese of Canterbury called the Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust. The IEB 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.

Some more information about Academies and about the Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust is attached to this letter. 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 still work with other local primary and secondary schools. We will have a little more freedom to decide how all our funding should be spent.

We hope that you will continue to give the Governors and the staff your support in driving our school forwards. If you would like to come and ask any questions about this change, there will be an opportunity to do so on Wednesday 9th July 2014 between 3pm and 5pm. This will not be a formal meeting but an opportunity for you to drop in and ask any questions that you have about this proposal. If that is not convenient please email questions to myself at administration@reculver.kent.sch.uk and we will respond.

Otherwise, if you have any comments you would like to make about the school becoming an Academy, please send them to Dr. Richard Webster, Chair of Governors, c/o Reculver School by 18th July 2014.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Fox
Headteacher



PROPOSAL FOR RECVLVER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS WITHIN THE DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY ACADEMIES TRUST – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

What is an Academy?

Academies are state maintained schools free to all children. They have to follow the same rules as all other state-funded schools over admissions, pupils with Special Educational Needs and exclusions. They are still inspected by Ofsted.

What is the Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust?

The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust has been established by the Diocese of Canterbury as a company to be responsible for a number of academies. This type of company is known as a Multi Academy Trust. The Directors have an agreement with the Secretary of State for Education to support and manage a number of individual academies.

The Directors of the Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust are appointed by the Diocese of Canterbury.

The Trust also provides a range of support for its Academies, including regular school improvement visits and meetings to support individual Academy head teachers and governing bodies in continuing to improve outcomes for pupils.

Responsibility for leadership and management of each Academy remains with the governing body and the head teacher. The Academy Trust will appoint a majority of the governing body, as the diocese does now; and there will continue to be elected parent and staff governors.

What impact will this have on Reculver?

Governors believe this will have a very positive impact and we are confident the relationship and benefits will develop over time. Membership of the Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust will help to secure the future of our school.

We will not make any major changes. There will be no change to the name of the school, the uniform, the admissions arrangements or to the times of the school day or terms. All children and all members of staff will continue to be part of the school.

So why make the change?

Academy status gives us some additional flexibility in deciding how best to meet the needs of your children. The Government has made clear that it believes all schools should convert to Academy status and we want to manage how that happens for our school.

When will these changes take place?

We anticipate conversion during the Autumn term this year.

How can I find out more?

More information on Academy status and on multi academy trusts is available on the Department for Education website www.education.gov.uk.

If you have any specific questions about what this will mean for our school or for your child, please come and ask questions on 9th July between 3pm and 5pm or write to or email Mr Fox, (administration@reculver.kent.sch.uk).

Any comments?

If you have any comments on the proposals, please write to Dr Webster by 18th July 2014 via the school.

