

Multi – Academy Trust

Collingwood Primary School
New York Primary School
Percy Main Primary School
Riverside Primary School
Waterville Primary School

Bulletin No: 1

15th April, 2016

Welcome to our first news bulletin. Every two weeks we will update you as to how we are progressing with the process of converting to a Multi Academy Trust.

We wrote to you in the first half of the Spring term to let you know that all Governing Bodies had held an extraordinary meeting in January where the Governing Bodies of all of the 5 Primary Schools had agreed to submit an Expression of Interest and, subsequently, an 'Application to Convert to Academy Status' was submitted to the DfE.

On 12th February, all schools submitted an Application to the DfE to Convert to Academy Status and on 3rd March, the Regional Schools Commissioner, Janet Renou, issued Academy Orders to all schools, meaning that our application to form a Multi Academy Trust had been agreed.

Each school is allocated a conversion grant which is intended to contribute towards expenses incurred by each school to support conversion to Academy.

The five schools have formed a Project Steering Group and a number of sub-groups led by the Headteachers of the schools.

The Group have instructed a firm of Newcastle based solicitors, experienced in leading schools through Academy conversions, and an initial meeting with the Project Lead, the five Headteachers and five Chairs of Governors took place on 22nd March.

We are now entering a period of Consultation and will be consulting with all stakeholders. Meetings for parents have been timetabled to take place at all schools during April and May and you will be advised of dates and times by schools individually.

Pupils have been consulted via their School Council Representatives and have been asked their views.

Each school has created a section of their school website to the MAT and in this section you will find fortnightly bulletins, FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) and responses to questions submitted by stakeholders during the consultation process.