



# Northborough Primary School

Headteacher: Mr S Mallott

Church Street  
Northborough  
Peterborough  
PE6 9BN  
Telephone: 01733 252204

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers and other stakeholders,

Northborough Primary School has continued to maintain high standards of achievement keeping pace with the recent increased expectations of the new testing and assessment regime and curriculum reforms.

Our school is proud to have developed a curriculum that is interesting and inspirational, which has a wealth of wider curricular activities and visits/visitors and other experiences. This ensures a broad education which develops the key skills and attributes to enable our pupils to be successful, confident, responsible and independent members of the school community and in time wider society. Most importantly, this success is driven by the skill, expertise and commitment of all our staff who work relentlessly to ensure all our pupils can be the very best they can be.

However, in an increasingly challenging and changing educational landscape where the role of the Local Authority and its funding for school improvement amongst other aspects of its work is rapidly diminishing, combined with the introduction of a National Funding Formula, we recognise that to maintain our high standards and continue to improve the performance of our school still further, we need a sustainable plan.

Northborough Primary School has experienced first-hand the benefits of close collaboration with other schools on a range of projects including assessment reform, inter school moderation and standardisation, system leadership development and curriculum innovation. The Governors and Headteacher wish to propose taking advantage of appropriate opportunities to deepen school-to-school partnerships for even greater impact and with this in mind we have been in discussion with colleagues from other schools about forming a new, more sustainable partnership.

The Governing Body and the leadership team have been considering carefully the future strategy for the school. It is proposed that Northborough Primary School as a member of the Soke Cluster of schools, working with Wittering Primary School, John Clare Primary School, Werrington Primary School and Gunthorpe Primary School, join the SOKE Education Trust. Mr Ben Wilding - Headteacher of Werrington Primary School fulfils the Executive Headteacher/CEO role for the Trust. All of the schools are uniquely great, have Good Ofsted Inspection judgements and are able to demonstrate sustained achievement over time. The school led system requires a Multi Academy Trust to formally support schools identified by the DfE. This would be brokered through the Regional Schools Commissioner.

The aim of the Soke Education Trust is to create a collaborative community of schools able to strengthen and sustain the quality of education we provide for our pupils through effective collaboration while retaining our individual ethos and approach. Governors believe the Soke Education Trust will enable member schools, together, to strengthen and flourish for the benefit of all our pupils, staff and the communities we each serve.

The visions, values and organisation of the proposed Soke Multi Academy Trust are set out in the consultation document - Please also refer to their website <https://www.sokeeducationtrust.co.uk/>.

The following factors have been carefully considered in developing this proposal: Learning outcomes/opportunities & teaching, staffing, finance, governance, sponsorship of a support school. The governing body remains absolutely committed to our role as a village primary school, offering a great education to all learners in our community. We believe that joining the SOKE Education Trust will allow us the best opportunity to maintain and further develop the outstanding provision which we currently offer for all of our pupils.

### **Our Aims**

We want our school to;

- keep its unique ethos, values, culture and local governance
- strengthen and sustain the quality of the education and opportunities we provide for our pupils
- make the most effective use of our funding and resources to meet the needs of all our pupils.

Some important matters would not change if we were to become a part of the SOKE Education Trust:

1. We will continue to be named Northborough Primary School and our uniform and logo will not change;
2. The curriculum, after school clubs, pastoral support and general organisation of the school day will not be affected;
3. The teaching, resources, staffing will transfer as they are. The employment rights of all members of staff will be protected by TUPE Regulations which came into force in 2006.

### **The Consultation**

We are conscious that this is a significant decision for Northborough Primary School and before an application is completed we would like to invite you to take part in a consultation process which will conclude on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The documents can be found on the school website [www.northboroughprimary.co.uk](http://www.northboroughprimary.co.uk)

### **You can engage in this by:**

1. Completing the consultation form and dropping it into the school office or emailing your response to a dedicated Governor email address: [d.hiller@northborough.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:d.hiller@northborough.peterborough.sch.uk)
2. You may have already attended a Parent/Carer Information meeting held at school on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 2.30pm and 6pm. We enclose a question and answer document for those of you unable to attend.

If you have any further questions please send them to [office@northborough.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:office@northborough.peterborough.sch.uk) with the subject title 'Academy consultation questions' and we will answer within 3 school days.

We explained that parents, carers and staff are being asked to complete a survey on the proposal for Northborough Primary School to convert to academy status and join Soke Education Trust.

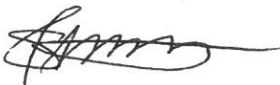
The survey is anonymous and the more of you that complete the survey the better the insight the Governing Body will have on parent/carers views.

The deadline for survey return is 1.00pm on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> and you can return them to the school office.

Following the completion of the consultation, an extraordinary Full Governing Body meeting will take place allowing the outcomes of the consultation to be discussed and a decision will be made as to whether to proceed.

We look forward to receiving your views.

Yours sincerely,



Mr S Mallott  
Headteacher



Mrs D Hiller  
Chair of Governors



# Northborough Primary School

Headteacher: Mr S Mallott

Church Street  
Northborough  
Peterborough  
PE6 9BN  
Telephone: 01733 252204

## PROPOSAL FOR NORTHBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS AND JOIN SOKE EDUCATION TRUST

### CONSULTATION SURVEY

About you: (Please tick one that applies to you)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Carer | <input type="checkbox"/> Member of local community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support staff  |  |

1. What do you like about your school?

2. Do you support the proposal of your school converting to academy status and joining Soke Education Trust?

Please circle one of the responses

YES

NO

MAYBE

DON'T KNOW

3. Could you explain your response to Q2?

4. Is there anything else you would like to say about the proposal?

On completion of this survey, we would ask you to either drop it into  
The school office or post it to the school by Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

