



Northborough Primary School

Headteacher: Mr S Mallott

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Dear staff, parents, carers and members of the school community,

The Governing Body of Northborough Primary School would like to thank all of you that attended the consultation meetings, submitted questions and participated in the survey.

We have considered carefully the survey responses from the twenty four parents/carers and two teachers that responded, in making a final decision about whether to proceed with the proposal for Northborough Primary School to join Soke Education Trust and convert to academy status.

We noted that the parent/carer responses were pretty evenly split between the four options (Yes/Maybe/No/Don't Know), and that there were no staff objections.

We also noted that the reasons for parents/ carers that objected to the proposal were concerns about the lack of data to prove the effectiveness of academies, the relatively short track record of Soke Education Trust and the impact of the Trust's possible growth on our school.

The Governing Body, as has been explained in the consultation information and at the meetings, considered very carefully the possible options for the school to sustain and improve school performance and pupil outcomes. This included thorough due diligence into Soke Education Trust and review of other multi academy trusts. We also considered the increasing isolation of our school as primary schools around us have joined multi academy trusts, limiting the opportunities for the partnership working that is so important for school improvement.

In the view of the Governing Body, joining Soke Education Trust is the best and safest option for our school. We are reassured that our Headteacher will be a part of the Trust leadership group, who will give us an important voice in the Trust's future plans.

Therefore the Governing Body has resolved to continue with the proposal to convert to academy status and join Soke Education Trust. We do recognise, however, that it is important that we continue to communicate with parents, carers and staff and provide reassurance that the aspects of the school that you value are not impacted adversely.

The Governing Body will publish a full consultation report this week.

Kind regards

Debbie Hiller
Chair of Governors

Stuart Mallott
Headteacher