

## The Federation of East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Primary Schools



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Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and/or Members of the Community

Many of you will be aware that under Government legislation schools can choose to convert to academy status. The Governing Body of The Federation of East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Primary Schools has been considering carefully the future of the schools in a fast-changing and increasingly challenging educational landscape. Governors have spent time researching and undertaking due diligence and now believe that the best plan moving forwards is for East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Schools to become academies.

In accordance with national government policy direction and the national agenda, a group of Church of England schools in the region are proposing to form a new multi-academy trust with the support of the Diocese called Dales Academies Trust (DAT).

The schools that are proposing to form DAT are:

- Ainderby Steeple Church of England Primary School
- Bolton on Swale St Mary's Church of England Aided Primary School
- Eppleby Forcett Church of England Primary School
- Kirkby Fleetham Church of England Primary School
- Middleton Tyas Church of England Primary School
- South Otterington Church of England Primary School
- Croft Church of England Primary School
- Barton Church of England Primary School
- Ravensworth Church of England Primary School
- Richmond Church of England Primary & Nursery School
- East Cowton Church of England Primary School
- All Saints Church of England Academy (TBC)

This is an exciting time for our schools and a great opportunity for us to come together and create a very strong partnership. We already work closely and if we form a trust we can work even more closely and help each other even more. We want to be strong together but still be separate schools and this is what we would like to do when we form the trust.

We want people to tell us what they think about these plans and are asking pupils, parents, staff, the Diocese, governors and the wider community for their feedback.

At 6pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July at Ainderby Steeple School, and 6pm Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July at Bolton on Swale School we have arranged for parents/carers and community members to come in and tell us what they think. We will also be able to answer any questions you may have. If this date/time is not possible for you we have a selection of similar events taking place on a variety of dates at different schools. Please see the federation website for the full timetable.

We look forward to seeing you at this event and if you want more information you can find it on our website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs H Dudman	Mrs C Faulks
Headteacher,	Chair of Governors
The Federation of East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Primary Schools	