

**Ripley Endowed Primary School,
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1st April 2022

Dear Parents,

Moving Forward

Considerations around Academisation

As you will be aware from previous communications, the schools of Beckwithshaw and Ripley Endowed, within our Federation, received an **Inadequate** Ofsted judgement, so by law must become part of an Academy Trust and cannot remain under local authority control.

The Regional Schools Commissioner is responsible for seeking and matching the schools with a suitable multi academy trust (MAT) able to drive and implement the improvements outlined by Ofsted.

The Interim Executive Board (IEB) will communicate any updates to the parents and communities of Ripley and Beckwithshaw regarding Academy status as soon as we have confirmed the details.

What about Kettlesing?

Kettlesing is in a different position as it has not received an Inadequate Judgement from Ofsted (it received a Good judgement in 2019) and is therefore not required by law to become part of a MAT at this stage.

However, Kettlesing is part of our Federation, and the IEB is responsible for considering the future arrangements for this school in the best interests of children, staff, parents, and the community. We need to consider its future sustainability (i.e., how we afford to run it) and how we can continue the school improvement journey so that our children get the education to which they are entitled and which they deserve.

If the IEB feels that remaining in the Federation and becoming part of a MAT alongside Ripley and Beckwithshaw is the best way forward for Kettlesing, we

must hold a formal consultation process: this allows all members of the community, parents, and staff to put forward their

view. The decision is **NOT** reached by a vote but by the IEB considering all those disparate views and taking the decision it feels best serves the needs of the school and the community.

Federation is a way of working together with other schools, sharing staff and resources. If Kettlesing were to try to stand alone or become part of another Federation, we would anticipate some major challenges due financial sustainability (i.e. we couldn't afford to run it) or educationally viability affecting its longer term future.

This **does not mean** we have already made up our minds and we would of course be keen to hear the views of the community. As and when we go out to consultation, we will communicate to parents across the Federation, but we must reiterate that the future model for Ripley Endowed and Beckwithshaw is that they must become part of a MAT as decided by law.

We shall be holding further consultation/communication sessions for the Federation community once things become a little clearer but, in the meantime, please do keep an eye out in the newsletters that go out each week for further updates.

Anne Vetch

IEB