



Arnold Mill Primary School

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2nd October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Consultation about joining The White Hills Park Trust

Parents meeting Thursday 19th October at 5.30pm

For some time, we have been looking at the best options for the school for the future. Many schools have now moved into Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), with approximately 43% of primaries and all but 1 secondary being an academy in Nottinghamshire. After a lot of research and discussion by the governing body and senior leadership staff we have decided to move forward with joining a MAT and have applied to join the White Hills Park Trust.

We believe that this move will have many benefits for our children, families and staff enabling us to work with other highly regarded schools to share expertise in all areas of school life. At the same time, we will maintain all of the attributes that make our school so special. We will also be able to share facilities and staff expertise to develop our curriculum and our educational offer. The trust will have a central focus on professional development for our staff so that we can continually improve our teaching and learning.

Each school within White Hills Park Trust retains its own individuality, ethos and values. In terms of the day-to-day life of the school, there will be little difference to that which is currently experienced by the pupils and parents. In particular we will be maintaining our strong identity as a primary school. I will continue to make operational decisions and share the strategic leadership with our Governing Body, at the same time as benefiting from sharing best practice amongst other schools.

The consultation period is from Monday 16th October to Monday 27th November. We are arranging a consultation open event for **Thursday 19th October at 5.30pm**, in the school hall. You may also wish to send letters in to school marked 'Academy Conversion' if you have any questions. Key people will be in attendance including Dr Paul Heery, CEO of the White Hills Park Trust, and Mrs Jackie Sainsbury, Primary Director of the White Hills Park Trust who will give a presentation and will be available afterwards to answer any questions you may have. The governors will have access to, and will consider, all responses before we make a final decision. We look forward to engaging with you in this very important step for our school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Jackie Oldfield

Head teacher

