3rd January 2018

Dear Parents,

Firstly, on behalf of all the staff at Valley, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break.

During the past twelve months, I have provided regular updates via my newsletters regarding the progress being made relating to Valley Primary School joining Connect Schools Academy Trust (CSAT). I am delighted to announce that Valley formally joined Connect Schools Academy Trust on 1st January 2018.

The school’s partnership with CSAT will maintain a sharp focus on teaching and learning affording all schools within the Trust a strong support network to share and learn from best practice while, at the same time, offering a healthy degree of challenge to achieve even more for the pupils we serve.

In addition to the academic benefits of this partnership, in the current climate of shrinking school budgets, as the Trust grows we will look to gain greater economies of scale to benefit each school financially.

From a day-to-day perspective, there will be little visible change in the way Valley operates with much of the school’s unique identity and character being maintained. Mr. Mitchell, the Chair of Governors, sits on the Trust Board to ensure Valley’s voice is represented in all future developments of the Trust.

Finally, Mrs. Andrea Carter, CSAT’s Executive Headteacher, is very much looking forward to meeting the families at Valley over the coming months. She will be in school on Friday where she will accompany me out on the playground first thing in the morning. At 9am on Friday 19th January an informal drop-in session will be held in the Studio for parents to come along and meet Mrs. Carter in person and ask any additional questions. I am looking forward to working with you all and seeing this partnership develop over the coming years to benefit the pupils, staff and families of Valley Primary School.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Jackson

Headteacher