

Dales Academies Trust (DAT) - Survey Monkey Comments

As at 8 September 2017

The questions and answers below are a summary of the feedback received on the online Survey Monkey questionnaires as at 8 September 2017.

South Otterington CE Primary School

Have you received enough information regarding our proposal?

Question: There have been no details on how the schools will be run, how finances will be distributed, how and who will be responsible, changes in staffing including terms and conditions, maintaining teaching numbers etc etc.

Answer: We did distribute a copy of the presentation shared with parents at the meeting on the 4th July and the responses to all questions asked just prior to the summer break. We can confirm the leadership and staffing will remain the same as will the local governing body. Terms and conditions for staff will remain the same.

Comment: I would like to be kept updated, there is a lot to take in I felt the evening was very well presented

Comment: I would like to know why on earth is such a lovely school is even considering this - I am absolutely astounded. It is VERY worrying.

Should we keep the school name the same?

Comment: This has nothing to do with the changes proposed as is the school uniform questions. I am more interested in the school provision and accountability to all.

Do you agree that the Secretary of State should enter into a Funding Agreement for South Otterington Primary School?

Comment: This is privatisation of education through the back door. Its asset stripping with publicly owned assets passing to privately owned organisations without

accountability. Academies are under no obligation to provide the same terms and conditions for teachers. This is a corrupt race to the bottom.

Comment: We should remain independent.

Any other comments?

Comment: I feel this is being slipped past parents without full information or consequences being openly discussed. It feels like a done deal behind closed doors

Response: This is not the case and we have shared information as soon as we were able. At the parents meeting in early July we also agreed to have another update meeting in September.

Comment: There is no positive evidence whatsoever that academies provide better outcomes for pupils. This is yet another example of snouts in the trough. Shame on the organisers of this sordid enterprise.

Comment: This is an exciting time for the school. I hope it will benefit all children and staff over all the school sites. I can see no ill effects to the children as nothing really changes; this is the main thing in my opinion, as long as staff and children are happy then I am happy to support the conversion.

Comment: My main concern is that, as an outstanding primary school, we will be joining with schools who do not have an outstanding status, whilst I am sure parents of the other school will be very happy about this, it may have a detrimental effect on our school.

Answer: Three schools proposed to go into the Trust are Outstanding. Croft, All Saints and South Otterington, with seven others all being Good. Richmond Primary may be in an Ofsted category currently however, it has experienced significant improvements over the last two years including better results / performance than many of our primary schools.

Comment: 100% disagree

Comment: Hopefully the new headteacher will continue to see the importance of small schools working closely together. Exciting times ahead.
