



Headteacher: Mrs K. Williamson BA Hons QTS (1st), AST, NPQH, MA

South Otterington Church of England Primary School

South Otterington

Northallerton

North Yorkshire

DL7 9HD

Tel: (01609) 776273

www.southotterington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Email: admin@southotterington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Monday 19th June 2017

Dear **Parents and carers,**

Many of you will be aware that under Government legislation schools can choose to convert to academy status. The Governing Body of South Otterington Church of England Primary School has been considering carefully the schools' future 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 South Otterington Church of England Primary School to become an academy.

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 closer 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.



Please ask if you would like us to provide written information in a more helpful language or format e.g. large print.

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.

On 11th July at 6pm at Ainderby Steeple Church of England Primary 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 school website for the full timetable.

We look forward to seeing you at this event and if you want more information you can visit our website at www.southotterington.n-yorks.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K. Williamson
Headteacher,
South Otterington Church of England Primary School

Mr Ian Juden
Chair of Governors
South Otterington Church of England Primary School



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