12th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Following a great deal of consideration of the options available to us, the Governing Body of Longton Primary School is considering joining The Axia Learning Alliance. In order to do this we would be changing from being a community school to a foundation school. The Axia Learning Alliance is a Co-operative Trust.

**Why we are considering this?**

We have considered what is happening both nationally and locally and we are also keen to protect the working relationships we have worked hard to establish. We believe that we would have a greater capacity by working more formally in collaboration with schools where we have a shared vision and joint ethos.

**What we would like you to do**

We see many benefits for the partnership which we would like to discuss with you as we begin formal consultation on our proposals.

Attached is an information leaflet that sets out briefly the implications of the proposed change of category and for us to join a local mutual co-operative school trust, as well as the reasons why we are proposing it. It also seeks to answer some of the more common questions. The leaflet also includes date, time and venue of the consultation meeting. This will be held on Tuesday 19 September 2023 at 5.00 pm*.* An open meeting is also being held on the same day at 6.00 pm if you are not able to make the 5.00 pm meeting

A much more comprehensive and in-depth consultation document known as ‘Booklet One’ can be obtained from our school website – or in paper copy from the school office. Similarly available is a detailed Questions and Answers document ‘Booklet Two’.

A key part of the initial consultation process involves gathering views and feedback. Included with this letter is a consultation questionnaire. *You can complete this via the link below or ask the school for a paper copy.*

[*https://forms.office.com/e/1KRTQHRYid*](https://forms.office.com/e/1KRTQHRYid)

We consider your views to be very important and hope that you are able to help us to determine the best way forward for our school**.**

This is an exciting time for all the school and we hope that you will be able to join us to listen to the proposals and ask any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Julie Brown Mr Jon Bates

Headteacher Chair of Governors

Longton Primary School Longton Primary School