

Cromwell High School



Academisation and joining Kingfisher Learning Trust

Parent Information Letter



KINGFISHER
LEARNINGTRUST
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES



Cromwell High School

'Learning today for a better tomorrow'



Reply Slip: Academisation Consultation Presentation 21st March 2023- please return by Friday 17th March

I confirm that I/we Number attending:

Parent/s / carer/s of

Will / will not be attending the Academisation Consultation Presentation on the 21st March

At 2.30pm / 5.00pm

Optional – We would like to ask the following question:

Dear Parents and Carers of the children of Cromwell High School,

As you are aware, Cromwell's Governing Body has recently decided that they would like the school to join Kingfisher Learning Trust. They have applied to the Department for Education to join the Trust and we are hoping that the conversion will happen on the 1st September 2023.

We would like to take this opportunity of introducing the Trust to you and explaining what becoming an academy means to you and your child. As the CEO of Kingfisher Learning Trust, I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you very soon alongside our Deputy CEO and Chief Operating officer (COO). The Trust's Deputy CEO is Lisa Needham, a highly skilled professional and the COO is Michael Unsworth, whose role is to lead on the business and operational side of the Trust.

We are delighted that you are looking to join us and hope that our journey together is a positive and rewarding one, as we work together to ensure we are providing the best learning opportunities for the students of Cromwell and those within Kingfisher Learning Trust.

Kingfisher Learning Trust was set up in September 2016 as a values-led organisation and with an intent underpinned by integrity. This has enabled the Trust to ensure that the necessary skills and expertise are in place to lead and govern the Trust. Time has been given to develop and agree the Trust's quality-driven intent and values to underpin the Trust's journey onwards.

The Trust intends to grow and support a greater number of schools that enable children and young people to access a high quality education and is looking to work in partnership with like-minded schools such as Cromwell High School. The Trust family is currently made up of four schools - Medlock Valley Primary School, Kingfisher Special School, Littlemoor Primary School and Halcyon Way Special School. A further school – Blackshaw Lane Primary School – is also expected to join the Trust on 1st September 2023.

The Trust has a skilled Trust Board and Governance model which has been deliberately planned to ensure that knowledge and skills underpin the Governance of the Trust with appropriate delegated responsibility to each school's Local Governing Board. The Trust Board consists of Trustees with a wide range of professional experience that can deliver the dual responsibility of building strategy to deliver great outcomes for children alongside the culture of accountability that is necessary across the organisation. If you would like to know more about those that govern and lead our Trust, please have a look on the Trust's website www.kingfisherlearningtrust.co.uk

Trust Intent

Kingfisher Learning Trust is founded on respect for everyone within the Trust family by encouraging and celebrating diversity. With a creative and flexible approach based on high aspirations, there is a commitment to providing opportunities for learning in a safe, supportive environment. The Trust is ambitious for every learner to grow as an individual and develop knowledge and skills to contribute to society. Research and reflective practice ensures an ever-evolving innovative provision across each school that gives everyone a voice and an opportunity to celebrate success.

Trust Values



Aspiration – Integrity – Respect
Pursue the best – Be the best – Think the best

Trust Vision

Excellence is at the heart of all of Kingfisher's work, and the Trust's Vision is for 'Endless Possibilities' working creatively to find the best possible approaches in all aspects of its provision. This is to ensure that every child within Kingfisher Learning Trust receives an aspirational, engaging and appropriate curriculum offer, developed to ensure an experience which both challenges and excites, motivates and engages and celebrates individuality and personal achievement.



What does this mean for the Parents and Carers of Cromwell?

The Trust is directly accountable to the Secretary of State for Education for the performance of its schools and this is set out in the Funding Agreement which also regulates the budget. The Trust becomes the employer and is responsible for ensuring quality services are provided to all of its schools.

There will be very little change for parents when Cromwell's status changes; we hope that parents will continue to play an active role in our school community. You may have heard that, in theory, an academy has the freedom to set its own term dates and hours, in practice, we recognise the difficulties that parents experience if term dates differ. It is in everyone's interests to make arrangements that work with other local schools.

What does this mean for the students of Cromwell?

We will work with you and the staff to ensure that provision is developed and enhanced to give your child the best learning opportunities we can. As a Trust we are better placed to ensure that each school has the freedom to design and implement an appropriate and ambitious curriculum that is unique to them, preparing students for the next stage of their education and adult lives. The Trust's ethos is underpinned by a collaborative support model, with expertise and best practice being drawn upon from across the mainstream and special schools that ensures high quality teaching and learning for all. We value each school's unique identity. We will always consult and work with the pupils, parents and staff of Cromwell with any ongoing improvements that are identified. We will work closely with the new Headteacher in September and any developments that they propose. We have no intention of suggesting any changes to current arrangements, such as changing the school name or uniform for the foreseeable future.

In addition, in the long term as part of Kingfisher Learning Trust, your child may benefit from new capital funding and new facilities, and access to a range of different grants.

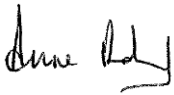
What does this mean for the staff of Cromwell?

The Trust's People Strategy has been developed to ensure there is a culture where people feel inspired, innovative and valued. We will enable staff within the Trust to develop and grow with opportunities to enhance their own professional learning ensuring that all teaching and learning is at least good.

Kingfisher Learning Trust is recognised for its strength and vision in leadership and on improving performance, secured through values-led strong, skilled, diverse leadership with a clarity of purpose. The Trust's School Improvement Strategy challenges underperformance and supports improvement based on an understanding of each school's needs.

We have been working in partnership with Cromwell High School over the last eighteen months and have enjoyed the collaborative opportunities this has provided for the schools within our Trust. We look forward to continuing on this journey with you and the contribution your school will make in further enhancing learning experiences and outcomes for all our children and young people.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Redmond
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Kingfisher Learning Trust



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