

1 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers & Community Members

**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO JOIN A MULTI ACADEMY TRUST & CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS  
FOR GROVE HOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Many of you will be aware that under Government legislation schools can choose to convert to academy status. The Governing Body of Grove House 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 Grove House to become an academy and join Pennine Academies Yorkshire.

Grove House have worked with Pennine for over two years and they have supported the school in making improvements for pupils and staff and we feel this is a natural next step to cement that relationship and move forward to becoming an outstanding school.

Our application for academy status was reviewed at the March Headteacher Board meeting and subsequently approved immediately prior to the school's closure due to Covid19. As part of the conversion process we have a duty to consult with key stakeholders and the information enclosed within this letter is the beginning of that process.

As it is inappropriate to hold face to face meetings we will be hosting virtual meetings, sharing videos and preparing documents which will help you to understand our proposals, what it means for the school and the staff and children, answers any questions you may have and most importantly enables you to share your thoughts and ideas.

**What is the proposal?**

Our school would like to join with a group of other schools in a Trust called Pennine Academies Yorkshire (PAY). The Trust was formed in 2018 and consists of Farnham, Hollingwood, Laycock and Crossley Hall Primary Schools. To find out more about Pennine Academies Yorkshire you can log on to their website [www.pennineacademiesyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.pennineacademiesyorkshire.co.uk) or join us at one of our virtual meetings highlighted below.

**Why have Governors decided to join Pennine Academies Yorkshire?**

Grove House has an established relationship with Pennine Academies Yorkshire in particularly Crossley Hall Primary School who supported them through their most challenging times. The values of the MAT are already aligned with Grove House in particular their ethos around the inclusion of all pupils. Continuing to work with the same group of schools is something that governors feel would continue to strengthen and bring stability to the school.

**What about Covid-19?**

As social distancing restrictions are in place, our consultation will run remotely either via video or over the telephone. The school is committed to ensuring parents are kept informed throughout the whole process. It is important to the future of the school to continue moving forward.

**Grove House Primary School, Myers Lane, Bradford, BD2 4ED**  
**Telephone: (01274) 636921 Email: [office@grovehouseprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@grovehouseprimary.co.uk)**

### **How can you find out more and have your say?**

Governors are now entering the consultation phase regarding the conversion of Grove House Primary School to academy status. The consultation period will run from **1 June 2020** to the **4 July 2020**. Following the consultation, the Governing Body will consider a report on the findings of the consultation at a virtual meeting in July and this will be made available online to all stakeholders via our school website.

To help parents/carers and the community in developing their knowledge and understanding of what is involved in becoming an academy, we have organised a virtual information session for parents/ carers and the community, which will take place on:

***Tuesday 9 June at 5pm OR Thursday 18 June at 3:30pm. As the sessions will be held virtually we need to send you an invitation with a link to access the meeting. In order to do this please email [admin@grovehouseprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@grovehouseprimary.co.uk) confirming you wish to attend and provide confirmation of the email address the invite should be sent to.***

The session will be an opportunity to ask questions about academy status and how this will affect the school. Representatives from Governors, school leadership and Pennine Academies Yorkshire will be available to talk to you and you will also be able to register your comments, queries and any thoughts on opportunities or concerns.

We also enclose with this letter a copy of some Frequently Asked Questions, which you may find of interest. On the school website we have created an academy consultation area where you will find a copy of the information sent home today as well as an online questionnaire. Further detail will also be added as it emerges.

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In order that we gather as broad and deep a range of opinions as possible, we strongly urge you to participate by attending the organised information session.

If you are unable to attend this session but would like further information or would like to respond to our consultation you can contact the school in the following ways:

- By telephone 01274 636921 / 07423 719796
- By email at [admin@grovehouseprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@grovehouseprimary.co.uk)
- Complete our online survey on the school website: <https://grovehouseprimary.co.uk/consultation/>

We look forward to speaking with you soon and to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely



**Lynette Clapham**  
Headteacher



**Roger Butterfield**  
Chair of Governors



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