



TL/LH
25 January 2021

Tel : 01299 861260
Website: www.upperarleyprimary.co.uk

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of Upper Arley C of E Primary School,

I write to update you on our situation regarding our conversion to become an academy.

Unfortunately, at this time, we are unable to meet together as we did last year before the COVID 19 pandemic began. For those of you who remember the last Post Ofsted Parent meeting held in the school hall in January 2020, we updated parents on the progress the school had made and where, in the process we were, with finding a suitable sponsor.

To clarify, the school received an Academy Order as a result of entering into Special Measures following the last Ofsted inspection in March 2019. Since then, work has gone on behind the scenes to find a suitable sponsor/trust for our unique and special school.

The Department for Education have now identified the Black Pear Trust to sponsor Upper Arley C of E Primary School and are consequently consulting on this matter. The proposal is that our conversion is planned for 1st April 2021.

Along with the support of the governing body, the local authority and the Diocese, we have made great strides to improve the leadership and management of the school. Together, we have put in measures to ensure a good standard of teaching and learning within the school. I have been encouraged by your positive comments and progress your children have made, despite what can be described as, the most difficult year in education history.

You will have many questions I am sure. I have included a FAQ sheet that may help to answer some of your questions, along with a letter from the Black Pear Trust introducing themselves. If you cannot find the answers there, I would encourage you to ask them by writing to the specified inbox parents@upperarley.worcs.sch.uk all questions will be treated confidentially and responded to as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, we are liaising with the trust, the Department for Education and the local authority to enable a smooth transition in April.

Kindest Regards

Mrs Tracie Langfield
Headteacher