*hope honesty patience joy forgiveness tolerance thankfulness respect kindness friendship gentleness love*



*respect kindness friendship gentleness love*

*Life in all its Fullness*

29th September 2021

ACADEMISATION CONVERSATION

Dear families, friends and stakeholders

At the start of this new year, it is a privilege to welcome you all back to our Holly Hill family and begin a new chapter in our story.

Holly Hill is a Methodist/Church of England school which believes deeply and passionately about the values we live by and high-quality education and support we provide to our families.

As the political landscape changes, so do the needs of our school. There is no longer the support for schools from the local authority that there once was and with more schools joining academies, we feel that it is time to consider our best options for the future.

Falling numbers across many schools in Birmingham are resulting in a drop in funding. This in turn increases the need to share resources, connection and good practice with other schools.

Holly Hill is a strong school with excellent outcomes for our children and we need to ensure that we safeguard all that we offer to our children and families and share this with other schools.

This is in line with the vision of the Methodist Church, and as a result, the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust (MAST) has established a multi-academy trust called the Epworth Education Trust. This is an organisation which has grown into a group of 6 Methodist schools. They work closely together as a family of schools for the mutual benefit of all schools.

Having looked at a number of Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), including Church of England MATs, we currently believe that the Epworth Education Trust aligns with our own vision, ethos and values best.

We have therefore started a formal due diligence process. This is where we look at the education offers, structures, processes and finances of both the school and the Trust – to look at how well an effective partnership might develop.

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Tele: 0121 675 8700

Website: www.hollyhill.bham.sch.uk



Headteacher: Charlotte Taylor Deputy Headteacher: Mark Carr

*This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment*

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The due diligence process is, however, about more than the operational sides of our school. We are proud of our Holly Hill community, so it is important that our families, staff, and stakeholders are able to share their views. That is why we are launching a listening period.

The listening period will run from the 29th of September for four full weeks. We have developed a dedicated website where you can find out more information about the Trust and formally share your views through a survey. You will also be able to watch a video from the CEO.

**Please visit www.epwortheducation.co.uk to find out more.**

There will also be an FAQ section on our dedicated microsite where we will publicly respond to all the questions we receive through the survey.

Please do take your time to be involved in this process. The listening period is your opportunity to share your views and to put forward thoughts and comments about how we can support our school to continue to flourish moving forward.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Warm Regards



Charlotte Taylor Karen Handford

Headteacher Chair of Governors

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