

15 January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

For some time the Governing Board have been considering the best options for Longwill School to ensure that we have the networks and support that we need to provide the very best specialist education for your Deaf child.

Having looked at a range of options we have decided to consult on an option to change the type of school we are from a Community school to a Foundation school. This will allow us to form a partnership with other special education schools and partners to achieve our aims for the school.

Please find enclosed information for our initial informal consultation. There is an opportunity for you to attend a meeting to hear more about what this means and you are welcome to any of the meetings listed for either parents / carers or public. **A meeting for parents will be held at Longwill on Wednesday 24th January at 11am** (better still – come at 10:15 am for a quick signing class before the meeting!). Details about other venues are in the booklet, which accompanies this letter.

Key areas that you will be interested in are:

- The school name will remain the same.
- The school day and term times will remain the same.
- School uniform will remain the same.
- Staff that currently teach and support your child will remain the same.
- The Governing Board will remain in place and will do the same as they do now.
- Our specialist education for Deaf children remains the same.

What we are aiming to do is to reorganise how we currently work with others for the benefit of our learners and staff.

We hope that you will attend one of the meetings and that you will take the time to complete a questionnaire to tell us what you think. There is a further more in-depth explanation of the proposal on our website as well as a 'frequently asked questions' (FAQ).

At the end of this informal consultation the Governing Board will meet to decide whether to consult formally. No decision has been made yet. We want to hear your views and would encourage you to return your questionnaires to us as soon as possible.

Many thanks



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