



**Worplesdon
Primary School**

Envis Way, Fairlands,
Worplesdon, Guildford
Surrey, GU3 3NL

20th July 2021

Dear staff, parents and carers of Worplesdon Primary School,

As you are aware, over the past month, the Board has worked with you to conduct a consultation and understand your views on the proposal to convert to an Academy and join the Bright Futures Learning Trust (BFLT).

Consultation Outcome

From the introductory video, letter and FAQ it was clear that we were using the consultation process to assist the Board with well-grounded knowledge to be able to vote on proceeding to submit an application. Collectively, we have participated in a number of sessions with the school senior leadership team and staff, two online sessions with parents and carers, facilitated two peer to peer sessions between Worplesdon staff and schools within the BFLT community, and responded to every representation made by parents and staff directly to the Board or school office. The 'Frequently Asked Questions' document was updated at the end of the consultation.

Having listened to, and considered, all representations made, the Board has voted to proceed to making an application for conversion as we collectively believe it is in the best interests of the pupils, and staff, at Worplesdon. This means that we will now conduct a period of formal due diligence with BFLT and staff at a level of detail, including paid for professional assistance funded by the Department for Education, that follows our preliminary consultation. This does not mean that conversion is a certainty, but with the information we have, the Board does believe it would be in the best interests of the school community.

Autumn 2021

To this end, beginning September 2021 and for the Autumn Term, Worplesdon and BFLT have jointly proposed a secondment for Mrs O'Brien to work part time in the Executive Head Teacher capacity for BFLT. In order to facilitate this, Mrs Bassett-Cross shall move to Acting Head of School, and Mrs Woodruff to Acting Deputy Head. Not only is this a positive demonstration from BFLT on the value placed on Worplesdon leadership and staff, it provides a significant platform to work as an integral part of the trust while the application and due diligence progresses.

At this time, the Board can only provide typical timeframes and expectations. It is anticipated that the due diligence and application process may take approximately 5-6 months. There shall be a subsequent Board vote towards the latter stages to accept the conversion and funding agreement. It is the Boards expectation for this process to wholly positive.

We are excited by the possibilities offered to staff, encouraged by the feedback from sessions involving other BFLT schools, and purposeful in our actions to achieve the best possible outcomes for the children of Worplesdon today and in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Woodruff
(Chair of Governors)

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