



INDIAN QUEENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Consultation letter for Parents and Carers

I am writing to you with details of a proposal to convert to academy status. The governors have been considering its position for some time and have given careful consideration to becoming an academy. As a result, the governing body of Indian Queens School has applied to become an academy and is proposing to join the Aspire Academy Trust, a high achieving multi-academy trust (MAT).

Their ethos is one that matches ours, and their proven track record is undoubtedly driven by the fact that they want the best for all children, just as we do. We have already worked closely with them through the Carland Cluster group of schools. By joining Aspire Academy Trust we would retain much of our independence whilst benefitting from being part of the Trust.

By forming a trust with other schools we will be able to work more collaboratively to raise standards of achievement and expand the range of opportunities we can offer your children. We will be able to provide greater opportunities for professional development for teachers, support staff and school leaders.

We do not envisage that either converting to academy status or joining a Multi-Academy Trust would bring about a significant change to the day to day running of our school.

We would like to invite parents to a consultation meeting in school on **Wednesday 18th April at 2.30pm**. This will be an opportunity to receive your comments and answer any questions you might have. We have also prepared a Frequently Asked Questions document included with this letter to answer some of the questions we anticipate you may have.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. The Governors and Leadership Team are committed to ensuring that Indian Queens School continues to be a good school, serving all members of the community. It is our duty to explore every opportunity to maintain and improve our already high standards.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting on **Wednesday 18th April at 2.30pm**. If you are unable to make the meeting, please feel free to email the school on secretary@indian-queens.cornwall.sch.uk with any further queries or go to our website www.indianqueensschool.org or the Aspire website www.aspireacademytrust.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

Frequently Asked Questions

Would the school have to change its name, logo or uniform?

There is no obligation for a school to change its name. Consequently, the school will not be changing its uniform as this would be an unnecessary expense to parents. The school name will be Indian Queens Primary School.

How are the children affected?

In many ways the children will not notice any immediate difference, they will be in the same uniform, in the same classrooms with the same teaching staff. We will continue to strive for any outstanding education for all our children.

Does becoming an academy change the relationship with other schools and the community?

No. Academies must ensure that they continue to be at the heart of their community, collaborating and sharing facilities and expertise with other schools and the wider community

Will our responsibilities in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and exclusions change?

No. Responsibilities as an academy in relation to SEND and exclusions will be just the same as they are now.

What are the risks of becoming an Academy?

The change to Academy takes the school out of Local Authority control, but does not exclude the school from Local Authority support. For example, academies can continue to receive Library Services, Education Welfare and other services from the Local Authority and where these represent 'best value' the MAT would use these services. Where the MAT feels that others can provide better services or better value the change to Academy increases the freedom to make these changes.