



Hutchinson Memorial C.E. (A.) First School

Learning together for life, with Jesus

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18.01.17

Dear Parents,

You will know that the school has recently been consulting on converting to become an academy. This was planned for the 1st February 2017 for first 5 "founder" schools of the Uttoxeter Learning Trust Multi-Academy Trust. We are one of these.

However, we have all decided to delay the start date to 1st April 2017. This is because we had not yet received figures from the Department for Education to enable us to plan our budget for the next few months. The problem was caused by the continuing absence of our DfE project lead, but we now have a new project lead in place.

Everything else is progressing to plan. We are working well with Staffordshire County Council, with the Lichfield Church of England Diocese (for church schools), with the solicitors who are handling the legal aspects of the change to academy status - and now with the DfE. Therefore, we are now confident that we can recommend to the governing body the April 1st start date.

Converting to become an academy is a big decision for the governors and they want to be sure that we're ready. We believe that working hand in hand with our partner schools as part of the Multi-Academy Trust will be best for our pupils and best for the education of all of the children and young people across the Uttoxeter area. What we offer should be as good as anywhere in the country. We are determined to live up to this.

Yours sincerely,

Paula Snee

Headteacher

