

Miss L. J. Barringer M.A. B.Ed.(Hons) APD(Ed Cons)

The Leyes Site, Osbaldwick, York YO10 3PR Osbaldwick Lane Site, Osbaldwick, York YO10 3AX

Tel: 01904 555606 Fax: 01904 425346

osbaldwick@york.gov.uk www.osbaldwickprimaryschool.co.uk

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Dear Parent/Carer

The Governing Body would like to inform the school community about their decision to begin the process of converting to academy status and to join the Ebor Academy Trust. In making the decision the Governing Body considered all the responses received during the consultation period including those from parents and staff. The Ebor Academy Trust was chosen for its many strengths including its significant capacity to support the schools teaching, leadership and management.

Whilst the school and the Ebor Academy Trust have already met on a number of occasions, the first step of the process is for both organisations to undertake a due diligence review which will help both parties get to know each other. This will ensure there are no surprises once the planned conversion is complete.

The time it will take to convert to an Academy is dependent on a number of factors and so there is no firm date yet established for the conversion to take place. One of the key factors to consider is the Local Authority's capacity to support the conversion as they have to deal with a significant number of conversions across York at this time. Based on this, the York Local Authority has provided an indicative date for conversion of September 2018.

The Governing Body would like to reiterate that Osbaldwick School will maintain a good and close working relationship with Archbishop Holgate's School, in particular as it continues to receive a high proportion of our pupils for secondary education. The senior leadership teams of both schools remain in close communication and Archbishop Holgate's School have confirmed this change will <u>not</u> affect the experience of your child in any way. Our excellent transition and joint activities will be <u>unaffected</u> and continue as usual.

Supporting this letter is a frequently asked question (FAQ) sheet on the **School Website** <u>www.osbaldwickprimaryschool.co.uk</u> to help answer questions you may have. If you have any further questions, or would like to discuss the conversion with either the school or the Governing Body, please do not hesitate to contact the school on York 554164.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Jackson Chair of Governors

