



Proposal that Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School becomes an academy and joins the Greenshaw Learning Trust

Governors and school leaders have been carefully considering the future of Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School in Bracknell for some time. They have concluded that it would be in the best interests of the pupils, parents, staff, and wider community for it to take advantage of the closer collaboration and stronger support it would get by being part of a multi-academy trust.

The DfE Regional Director has been in discussion with senior leaders from Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT) and the leadership of Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School and believe that GLT can provide the support that the school needs.

The Greenshaw Learning Trust has similar values to Wooden Hill. The Trust understands the community that Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School serves and the strengths and needs of its pupils, and has the skills and experience that will help the school give them the best preparation for the future. The Trust is well-established locally, being responsible for Sandy Lane Primary School, Crown Wood Primary School, Wildmoor Heath School and Brakenhale School in Berkshire.

As part of the Greenshaw family of schools, Wooden Hill will benefit from and contribute to the close collaboration within a community of like-minded schools, whilst retaining its character and its place at the heart of the local community.

If the necessary formal arrangements are agreed between the school, the Greenshaw Learning Trust, the Department for Education, and Bracknell Forest Council, it is expected that Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School should join the Greenshaw Learning Trust in the spring term.

Why do it?

Schools can tackle the challenge they face and better secure the support and services they require by working together and sharing expertise and resources within a structured group of schools – and being part of a multi-academy trust provides the most effective structure for that.

The Trust has a strong track record of school improvement and has the skills, experience and capacity to give Wooden Hill the support it requires to ensure it can provide the best education to all its pupils so they are fully equipped to fulfil their academic and personal potential.

As part of the Trust, Wooden Hill will benefit from stronger school-to-school collaboration as part of a community of schools that work closely together and support each other. The school will be able to secure better value for money and free up resources to use for the school's own priorities.

Joining a family of schools that share a strong moral purpose and work closely together to support each other will protect the provision and ethos at Wooden Hill and improve opportunities for pupils and staff.

How will this affect Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School?

As part of the Greenshaw Learning Trust, Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School's ethos and place at the heart of its local community will not change; it will continue to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to give local pupils of all abilities the best education possible.

By becoming an academy, the school's admission arrangements will not change – the same pupils will come to the school as would have done otherwise. The school will continue to collaborate with other local schools, for example, to coordinate term dates, and with the local authority over provision for special educational needs and place planning.

The school will receive the same level of per-pupil funding as it would as a locally maintained school but will benefit from additional efficiencies and economies of scale available to the multi-academy trust. The land and buildings used by the school will continue to be used by the school and control of them will transfer to the Greenshaw Learning Trust on a long lease.

The Greenshaw Learning Trust will become the employer of the school's staff – it is expected that all current staff will transfer to the Trust under TUPE (Transfer of

Undertakings Protection of Employment) regulations, retaining current pay and conditions. Teachers will remain in the Teachers' Pension Scheme and support staff will remain in the Local Government Pension Scheme as they are now; the employers' contributions will be maintained by the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

The Trust will offer greater development opportunities to staff and help Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School recruit and retain good staff.

There will be no changes to the school name and uniform.

About the Greenshaw Learning Trust

The Greenshaw Learning Trust is an established and successful multi-academy trust – a charitable company responsible for, and with the sole purpose of providing education through, a group of state-funded schools – which continue to follow the same regulations as other state schools and are funded on the same basis.

The Trust has nineteen primary schools and fifteen secondary schools in South London, Berkshire, Surrey, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire, Bristol and Plymouth; they are popular local schools and have shown significant improvement since they joined the Trust.

To find out more about the Greenshaw Learning Trust, please visit www.greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk



Information, views and comments

Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School and the Greenshaw Learning Trust would like to invite you to attend a meeting where you can hear more about this and ask any questions you may have.

Consultation meetings are being held on 23rd September 2024 at the following times:

- 13:30 – 14:15: Pupils from the School Council
- 14:30 – 15:15: Parents
- 15:30 – 16:30: Staff and union representatives
- 17.30 – 18.15: Parents

You can also give your views or ask your questions:

- By completing the online response form [here](#).
- By email to: woodenhillconsultation@greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk

Please let us have your views before 15:00 on 11th October 2024.
