

Roselands Infant School

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Roselands & Stafford
Federation

Stafford Junior School

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Executive Headteacher: Kyra Siddall-Ward

Heads of School: Mrs Simone Jackson/Mrs Carol Wallis

1 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you on progress with regard to the identification of a suitable sponsor for Stafford Junior School as it converts to become an academy. As you will know from my letter to you of the 23 March 2020, the IEB has been working with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to identify an appropriate Trust for the school to join and I am delighted to inform you that The Cavendish Learning Trust has been named as sponsor.

The Cavendish Learning Trust is well established in the south east as a provider of high quality education, achieving strong outcomes from the nursery years through to Year 11. As an all-through school (early years, primary and secondary) it is in the unique position of having staff with a wide range of leadership experience and subject specific expertise across all years and subjects of the curriculum. In the latest Ofsted inspection, the primary phase was particularly commended for driving improvements, securing rapid progress and setting high expectations of behaviour for learning. The leadership of the primary phase was also described as very strong.

I am also aware that a significant number of Stafford children go on to attend Cavendish Secondary School.

The primary headteacher of The Cavendish Learning Trust, who is currently our interim executive headteacher, has a proven track record of school improvement, ensuring the very best outcomes for all pupils, building on strengths and securing change with urgency and determination.

The current partnership between the Cavendish Learning Trust and the Roselands and Stafford Federation has seen some exciting and highly effective benefits, including the introduction of an engaging and cohesive curriculum across the two schools, the introduction of a robust reading programme of study underpinned by phonics from Early Years to Year 6 and an inclusive behaviour system that sets the highest expectations. Both staff and pupils have engaged extremely well with the changes recently introduced; in particular, the staff have embraced the wide range of professional development opportunities available through the Cavendish Learning Trust and the Federation and staff have worked together with enthusiasm to improve the learning offer across the partnership. Pupils have responded very well to the new climate for learning where expectations are high and clear boundaries are set and have enjoyed celebrating their success with the dojo points awarded for demonstrating effective attitudes to learning.

As I explained in my letter of the 23 March, the IEB will now undertake a full consultation with staff, parents and the wider school community on academy conversion for Roselands Infants School to also join The Cavendish Learning Trust. As the two schools are part of the same federation, share staff, governance and a wide range of policies, the IEB will be proposing that these arrangements

should be continued through the whole Federation becoming part of the same Trust. The consultation will be launched in September 2020 and will last a month.

Currently I am not in a position to confirm timescales but I will keep you updated with the progress being made towards conversion. I anticipate that conversion will take place before the end of the next academic year.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny Gaunt', written in a cursive style.

Penny Gaunt

Chair of the IEB