



Marden Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As the governing body of Marden Primary School we would like to provide an update to our pupils, staff and parents on the activities we have been focussed on over the last few weeks.

Since the OFSTED review, we have been considering how to support the school implement the changes necessary to achieve and sustain the rapid improvements to teaching and learning we desire. Accordingly, the governing body has investigated the possibilities of becoming an Academy or joining an existing Multi-Academy Trust. We now believe that there would be significant benefits for the school by joining the Leigh Academy Trust and have started a process of consultation and due diligence with them, please see attached statement for further information.

As part of the consultation process, we would like to invite parents to join the governors at the school on Wednesday 26th February at 6:30pm for a presentation from the Leigh Academy Trust and to ask questions. We will be holding a similar session for the staff on the same day.

The second key focus has been regarding the traffic situation outside the school at drop-off and pick-up times. As you will appreciate there are no easy quick solutions, but we have met with KCC and the Parish Office and are exploring various options. In the meantime, we would like to thank the group of parent volunteers who you will have seen on the roadside highlighting the danger caused by inappropriately parked cars: the sightlines leading to the zebra crossing are significantly clearer now. Please continue to support us keep our children safe by parking considerately.

Finally, we have been considering how to reduce the number of children absent from school. As you will have seen from the weekly newsletter, several classes are now approaching 100% attendance, however, there are still some children who are persistently absent. As a reminder, the legal responsibility for ensuring pupils attend school regularly and punctually rests with parents/carers, and a penalty notice will be issued for poor attendance.

Kind regards,

Andy Puncher and James Sawle, Co-Chairs of Governors