



Godalming Confederation of Schools

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School
The Drive
Godalming
Surrey
GU7 1PF



21st September 2018

The primary phase of the Godalming Confederation (children's centres, nursery, infant, junior, primary schools) schools are working together to form a new cooperative education partnership.

These schools currently collaborate to provide training and development opportunities for staff; review each other's performance; share good practice and develop common strategies and practices to further improve standards of learning and outcomes for all children in our area.

Over the last two years, discussions between the schools have led to the conclusion that the partnership working is valuable and should be developed further through a legal structure which also protects each school's autonomy.

The proposed model is a cooperative learning Trust, which will offer benefits for all of the Confederation schools including:

- **Sustainability:** a formal co-operative legal entity with powers to commission shared support, contracting and other work as agreed jointly
- **Opportunity:** further expansion of shared training, professional development, staff retention and recruitment and curriculum enrichment for our learners.
- **Flexibility:** the choice of agenda and priorities, negotiated between the schools
- **Autonomy** with accountability: continuing independence for each school, with shared goals for school performance and school improvement



Farncombe Church of England Infant School

A Legal Consultation

In order to set up the co-operative Trust, four community schools: Busbridge Infant School, Godalming Junior School, Milford School and Moss Lane School are proposing to change their legal school category from community to foundation. This then allows the legal entity of the Godalming Learning Partnership (GLP) to come into being.

The other schools in the Confederation then need to decide if they want to join the GLP as equal partners; many have already expressed their wish to do so. The Confederation has worked closely with the Diocese of Guildford and the status and character of the Church schools in the Confederation remains unchanged. The proposed Trust has the full support of the Diocese.

There are no changes to individual school management, staffing, uniforms or day to day routines – the Trust will create new opportunities which can be used when appropriate.

The full Statutory Proposal for the four schools to set up the Trust is available on the four school websites or from school offices and can be found on the Confederation website godalmingconfed.org.

The Governors of the four schools would like to know what you think of these proposals and warmly invite you to take part in our consultation, which closes on 19 October 2018, by:

- **Reading** the consultation documents and asking for further information if required.
- **Attending** one of the consultation meetings (see dates and times below).
- **Completing** a response form, available online or from any of the four named schools.
- **Sending** comments or requests for further information to consult@csnetwork.coop.



The meetings to discuss the development of the Trust

Parents and Public

- 2nd October - 9.15 a.m. - Busbridge Infant School
6.00 p.m. - Godalming Junior School
- 3rd October - 9.15 a.m. - Moss Lane School
6.00 p.m. - Milford School

Godalming Confederation & Partners

- 2nd October - 7.00 p.m. - Godalming Junior School



Godalming Learning Partnership: a co-operative of learning providers in the Godalming area



Witley Infant School
Church of England (Controlled)

