



25 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Proposal for Joydens Wood Infant School (Academy) to join Nexus Education Schools Trust

Last term we shared our school's plan of exploring and developing an effective relationship with Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST). This relationship continues to go from strength to strength and we are now seeking our school community's views on our next step.

This letter asks for your views on a proposal for Joydens Wood Infant School to transfer and be part of NEST which is a local and well established multi-academy trust (MAT) of primary schools.

It is essential that when joining any MAT our shared vision, values and philosophy of education align. From undertaking our own due diligence we feel that NEST fulfils this and we are excited to embark on this new journey.

We would like to begin the consultation process to seek your views about a transfer to NEST. The consultation period runs from **Monday 25 April** and ends on **Thursday 26 May 2022**.

The Government continues to encourage schools who are single-academies trusts (such as ours) to join strong multi-academy trusts; as this provides greater opportunities for staff, pupils and school communities to work together and continue to build the most successful and sustainable future. NEST has a strong network of schools; all graded good or outstanding by Ofsted and provides services to schools outside of the MAT.

The NEST schools are:

- Alexandra Infants School
- Balgowan Primary School
- Farnborough Primary School
- Highfield Junior School
- Perry Hall Primary School
- Worsley Bridge Primary School
- Alexandra Junior School
- Bickley Primary School
- Highfield Infants' School
- Manor Oak Primary
- Pickhurst Infant School

NEST has a strategic priority to develop nursery education for clusters of schools. In September 2022 a new NEST nursery will open in central Bromley, providing families with greater choice and an excellent early education opportunity for pupils. As an infant school, we feel this is an exciting development as early years education is something we have always been very passionate about.

Thames South Teaching School Hub is also part of the NEST organisation, one of 87 national training and development organisations, providing national programmes and qualifications for school staff. It provides opportunities for experienced staff to become facilitators and trainers on the programmes. Thames South have a strong market share with over 700 participants for its Early Career training programme.

The Governors will make a decision after we have had the opportunity to hear your views. We will ensure that our decision will be in the best interests of the present and future children of our whole community.

If you would like to share your views with us, please respond by using any of the following methods:

- Email to: info@joydens.org FAO Chair of Governors, Clarissa Hill
- Write to: Chair of Governors, Clarissa Hill

If you would like to share your views directly with Nexus Education Schools Trust (NEST) please contact them by using any of the following methods:

- Write to: CEO - Mrs Paula Farrow, Nexus Education Schools Trust, Worsley Bridge Primary School, Brackley Rd, BR3 1RF
- Website: <https://nestschools.org/>

Any frequently asked questions and responses are on our school's website: <http://joydens-wood-infant.kent.sch.uk/mat/>

We hope you share our view that this enables a wonderful opportunity to bring both Joydens Wood Infant and Junior Schools closer together.

Yours sincerely

Clarissa Hill
Chair of Governors

Rachel Hately
Headteacher