



# Fingringhoe C of E (VA) Primary School

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2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Fingringhoe and Holy Trinity & Eight Ash Green Primary Federation Proposal

Thank you for taking the time to consider the federation proposal with Holy Trinity school proposed for January 2022. When the formal consultation period concluded on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 we have received 63 written responses to the questionnaire for Fingringhoe. These responses from all stakeholders can be summarised as follows; 50 parents, 12 members of staff and 1 from other key stakeholders.

In addition to parents, staff and stakeholders we received feedback from Essex Education Authority, the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) and the Parochial Church Councils (PCC) of both schools. All the views expressed were extremely insightful, constructive and helped the Governors' Joint Steering Committee (GJSC) decide whether to recommend to the Full Governing Board to proceed with the Federation proposal.

Throughout the consultation period members of the GJSC had detailed discussions with Essex Education Authority and representatives from the Chelmsford DBE to help them understand the many complex issues they had to address before coming to their decision. One key consideration was that the Diocesan Board of Education required the PCC attached to both schools to agree with the Federation proposal before it would approve the process continuing.

Of the 63 responses received, 18 supported the proposal, 31 disagreed and 14 remained undecided. In addition to responses to the questions, the GJSC reviewed all comments received and they contributed to the final decision.

Within the group that opposed the proposal was the PCC for Fordham & Eight Ash Green which obviously had a significant impact on the final decision.

The Chelmsford DBE and the Essex Education Authority were made aware of the decision made by the PCC of Fordham & Eight Ash Green and two meetings were convened. At those meetings it was decided that, in the light of the significant reservations raised by the PCC of Fordham & Eight Ash Green the Federation proposal could not go forward. The Full Governing Boards of both schools were then made aware of this decision and it was decided to terminate the process. It was also agreed there needed to be an exit strategy so that neither school suffered from the Governors' decision not to progress with the proposed federation.

Therefore, for the duration of the Autumn Term Mrs Daniels will continue to be the Interim Headteacher for Fingringhoe Primary and Holy Trinity Primary, continuing to divide her time equally between the two schools.

The Governing Body of Fingringhoe Primary will commence the recruitment of a Headteacher for our school immediately and if successful we would expect the new Headteacher to join us in January 2022.

Yours sincerely

Kat Patel

Acting Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Board



Interim Headteacher: Mrs C. Daniels  
SENDco: Mrs T Bennie