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26th May 2017 Head Teacher: Mrs J Kingswood, BEd(Hons), MA, NPQH

Dear Parents/Carers

Academy Conversion - A Consultation with Parents/Carers

The Governing Board will always put the interest of Granville pupils first and will take necessary steps to improve the quality of education and outcomes for our pupils.

You may be aware from the local and national press that there is a lot of talk at the moment about schools becoming academies and joining multi-academy trusts.

Over the past few months, the Governing Board have explored whether joining a multi-academy trust could support our improvement journey and enable more rapid change.

I am therefore writing to inform you that the Governing Board of Granville Sports College has begun the process of consulting about academy conversion. I hope as a parent, you will take part in the consultation process and will respond with your views.

Details about what becoming an academy may mean for the school are available on the school's website at www.granville.derbyshire.sch.uk. Paper copies are also available from the school office (a hard copy is attached to this letter) and there is also further information available on the Department for Education website.

It is important to be clear that should the school convert to an academy, the school will retain its own independence, identity and local Governing Body. The proposal is that we will join a multi-academy trust, namely, The de Ferrers Trust.

At Granville, we are proud of our close links and good working relationships with our neighbouring schools and the links between primary and secondary schools. These links will also be retained. You may also be aware that The Pingle School has recently joined The de Ferrers Trust.

As a whole school; pupils, parents, staff and the Governing Body, we must be sure of the right way forward for our school. The Academy programme offers us the opportunity to continue our programme of school improvement, to build upon our successes and to use any increased flexibility to adapt our school life to benefit the pupils, and indeed the wider school community.

We are also holding an information event on Monday 12th June at 5.30pm. This will give you a chance to come along and ask questions about the proposals and find out more.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of the school. We confirm that Granville Sports College remains committed to providing the best possible education for all the children in school.

Yours faithfully

Jo Kingswood
Head Teacher

