



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Message from Parent Governors; Joe Harvey and Donna Walters

We are in a very exciting period at Howitt Primary Community School. As you will be aware, the school has been invited to be one of the founding schools of the Embark Multi Academy Trust (MAT). The governors, having debated this invitation extensively, have chosen to pursue this invite and opened the matter to consultation with parents, teachers, staff and other stakeholders.

May we express our thanks to those of you who have been able to attend one of the school's events where the MAT invitation was discussed and we hope that you found these events informative and that you got answers to any questions you may have.

We recognise that this is new direction for our children and for our school. At the moment, the school is maintained by Derbyshire County Council. By becoming part of a MAT, the school will become an Academy and cease to be maintained by the local authority, but instead by the Department of Education. This means that our entire budget will be paid to the school and by joining forces with other schools, we will be able to make significant savings on many of the services which the school currently uses. These extra funds will be used to improve outcomes for our children.

We have no doubt that you will be able to see how this is a good thing for our school and for our children. The staff and governors are all committed to ensure that the school identity, vision and outlook will all remain unchanged.

We hope that you are as excited about the future as we are. We are very lucky to have a great team staff at the school who are all committed to ensuring that the school and our children meet their potential. Part of our role as governors is to support the headteacher in ensuring that there is clarity in our vision as we push to make Howitt Primary an outstanding school. We currently have vacancies for two parent governors to join the Governors Board. In recent years, we have struggled to recruit parents to join us and we want to identify and overcome any barriers which may have prevented some of you applying before. We hope that our bright future might inspire some of you to apply to become a governor and to play a part in shaping the future of our wonderful school. We would welcome any of you who are interested in applying to contact us, as your parent governors, to discuss the role. Our email addresses are below. We look forward to hearing from you.

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