

What's happening?

The governing body proposing to change the status of Longton Primary School from a community school to a foundation schools and at the same time to join Axia Learning Alliance.

How can people become involved?

The consultation is open to everyone who might be affected by the proposed changes: pupils, parents, staff, governors, potential partners and the wider community.

You will be able to respond in writing — questionnaires will be sent to all stakeholders.

You will be able to attend information meetings. There will be people during the consultation period, that you can ask to speak to who will answer your questions and take note of your views.

Governors will take account of feedback before making a decision on whether to proceed with the idea.

What do I need to do now?

The consultation process will begin on Friday 15 September 2023. You can find out more by reading booklet one and booklet two, on the school website or attending a meeting where there will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions and access any further information from the school and a representative from the Trust.

Process Timescale

The four week consultation with parents, carers, pupils, staff and community begins at noon Friday 15 September 2023 until noon on Friday 13 October 2023.

Consultation Meetings:

Longton Primary School:

Staff meeting: Tuesday 19 September, 3.45-4.45 pm

Parents/Carers: Tuesday 19 September 2023, 5-6 pm

Open meeting: Tuesday 19 September 2023, 6pm

Parents/Carers: Wednesday 18 November 2020, 5-6 pm

Consultation documentation is available from the school's website at [Longton Primary School:](#)

We would like to hear your views on these proposals

Please complete the questionnaire or alternatively email the school on: bursar@longton.lancs.sch.uk

You can also contact the school on 01772 612495



Axia Learning Alliance

Longton Primary School

Is beginning consultation on proposals to change category from community school to become a foundation school and at the same time join the Axia Learning Alliance

This would be a formal and legal partnership with the following schools

**Lostock Hall Community Primary School,
Penwortham Broad Oak Primary School
and Tarleton Community Primary School**

**Bamber Bridge St Aidan's CE Primary
School and New Longton All Saint's CE
Primary School**

What is a Trust?

A Trust school is a local authority maintained school which is supported by a charitable trust. Trusts can be set up by individual schools or groups of schools and usually involve collaboration with partners. The Axia Learning Alliance is a Co-operative Trust model.

The Co-operative Trust links schools together mutually using co-operative principles, which re-enforce our schools ethos, and allows stakeholders to become members of the Trust.

If we became a Trust, what would stay the same and what would change?

Stay the same: The school would continue to teach the National Curriculum, receive funding through the Local Authority, follow the schools admissions code and receive periodic visits from OFSTED.

The school's governing body would still be responsible for running the school. Teachers would automatically continue to be employed on the same terms and conditions and Governors would make sure that this was also true for support staff.

The day to day running of the school and organisation will not change or feel any different.

Change: The school's Governing Body would employ staff, not the local authority.

School assets (grounds and buildings) would be held by the Trust rather than the local authority. The Trust appoints other governors to support and strengthen the governing body.

The Trust also sets up a Stakeholder Forum to represent the views of all the members of the Trust, including parents, carers, staff, pupils and the local community.

If so much is going to stay the same why change?

The chief reasons for change are to build on and re-enforce our commitment to our community, to continue to improve the quality of and raise standards in education and increase life chances and opportunity for our children. We think that, by working more closely together with other like minded schools and colleagues, we can be more successful for our children and school community.

We already encourage active citizenship in our schools and this model would help us to involve staff and pupils more in the running of the school and to work closely with parents and the local community.

Trust status will help us to establish strong, long term partnerships with key partners who would help increase resources and opportunities for staff and pupils at a time when the role and function of Local Education Authority is being greatly and rapidly reduced. Schools have to look elsewhere for support.

We feel that we will be better able to serve our local school communities by working together to raise standards and aspirations, increase opportunities and provide greater social cohesion.

AXIA LEARNING ALLIANCE

This leaflet provides an overall summary of the full consultation Booklet One, "Changing from a Community to Foundation School Category and Joining a Charitable Trust"

This is available from the school office and website. Similarly available in Booklet Two, "Questions and Answers"

All responses given at the consultation meetings will be minuted and presented to governors at a meeting to be held w/c 30 October 2023.

Written responses should be made by completing the questionnaire and returning it to one of the schools by noon on Friday 13 October 2023.