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27th April 2017

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

## **Background**

You will remember that last year we went through a consultation process to convert to a Cooperative Multi Academy Trust along with our partner schools, Chorlton Park and Old Moat Primaries. We consulted with staff, parents and carers and members of our communities, governors decided that the schools should move out of Local Authority control and become a **Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust (Co-op MAT)**. While governors took seriously the concerns raised during the consultation period about the potential risks of such a move, on balance we agreed that becoming a Co-op MAT was the best way to secure the future for our schools.

Governors are keen to establish a strong connection between the leadership of the schools and the schools' communities (you, the staff, and others who are connected with the schools). This means that once the MAT is established, a **Forum** will also be developed, which will allow parents, carers, staff and community members to meet and discuss issues related to the schools.

## Where are we now?

This conversion process has taken longer than we initially thought but the school has been working with the Department for Education and the Local Authority and we believe we are now at the point where we have an agreement with the Local Authority. Whilst there remains some work to do to complete the transfer we now expect to convert to a Cooperative Multi Academy Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.

This means that from September we will be part of the 'Changing Lives in Collaboration or CLIC Trust. (Please see below the logo which we will share with CLIC from September.)

During the summer, the school business manager, Kay Roche, and the schools' solicitors will complete the legal work required for the conversion process.

There won't be any external signs that it's happened. The school names, uniforms, staffing and day-to-day routines will stay the same. If you'd like more information about any of this, then do get in touch.



















## **Rolls Crescent's Governing Body**

Our Local Governing Body will continue to serve the school and support and challenge our school leaders. As well as this there will be the Trust's Board of Directors supporting our Local Governing Body.

As a member of the Trust's Board of Directors, Darren Cooper will ensure the Trust is meeting the needs of Rolls Crescent Primary as well as our partner schools in the Trust. The CLIC Trust also has five Trust Members who support and challenge the Trust's Board of Directors and our Rolls Crescent Governor, Martin Harding, is a key Trust Member.

It's a sign of the strength of our schools and our communities that we've been able to attract such a great group of people, who are volunteering their time and skills to ensure the best for the children of our schools. This is even more notable as governors' responsibilities are increasing and many schools in Manchester are finding it difficult to recruit.

Many others of you give your time to the schools in other ways, including helping to run the events that are held throughout the year at all our schools. Such events really help to create a sense of belonging for adults and children alike. We're hopeful that the willingness of our community to get involved in the broader life of the schools will make the Co-op MAT a great success.

We don't anticipate any further delays to the conversion, but will update you again in September about the work carried out in the Summer Term.

Yours sincerely

Darren Cooper Chair of Governors J Reynolds Head of School H Turner Head of School

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