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Headteacher – Mrs Andrea Curran

Friday 11th February 2022.

Dear Parents and Families,

We are writing to update you about the outcome of our consultation with you regarding our proposal to apply for an Academy Order and to join Cheshire Academies Trust (CAT).

Thank you to everybody who has contributed either formally on ParentApp, at the Drop-ins or via our consultation email – and to everybody who has spoken to us informally and offered their thoughts.

Governors have reviewed all the responses from our consultation, including from the wider community, our local school partners and our staff. This feedback, and our responses can all be viewed on our website. We did receive from the Knowsley Trade Union Unions a petition against the proposal. We carefully analysed all the signatories and postcodes – 28% fell within our school community catchment area; only 1 signatory was from a parent at SVP. No staff signed the petition. 54% of signatories were from outside the Borough of Knowsley, and the remaining 18% were from beyond our school community catchment area. Some signatories were not real persons.

The overwhelming response of our school's stakeholders, including local partner schools and our staff, has been highly positive. Taking that into account, with evidence following due diligence on CAT and our research over the past year, Governors have voted unanimously to proceed with applying for an Academy Order.

This decision has been based solely on our will and commitment to always provide the best educational experience for all our children, both present and in the future.

The conversion to academy status with CAT will be subject to the Department of Education approving the application, which may take 6 weeks. It is only after an order is agreed that we can proceed with the next stage. We will of course keep you updated when we receive any news and you are very welcome to always keep asking questions and talking to us.

Kind Regards

Sue Dunphy
Chair of Governors

Andrea Curran
Head Teacher

