

## Academies Consultation

May 2014 - 2

### Response to questions and views.

Views are organised in the order they were received.

Parent responses	View point/ Question  School reply in colour
Parent 7	<p>If Ravenscote becomes an Academy would you still see yourself as a Headmaster? Would you see your future as a Headmaster of Ravenscote Academy the same way as you would see it now in Ravenscote in its current status?</p> <p><b>The simple answer is yes I would still see myself as Headmaster of Ravenscote. The difference becoming an academy would make would mean we are at the forefront of government policy and we would find it easier to develop into leading national school.</b></p>
Parent 8	<p>If academy status means RJS is owner of their own land and buildings, what guarantees can you provide parents that future decisions would not be taken to implement the sale of land or playing fields as seen as appropriate opportunities by RJS?</p> <p><b>At RJS we are very protective of our playing fields and have no intention of selling land to raise money. All academies have lease agreements which are 125 years. Surrey County Council devises the lease and makes sure that the usage of the land is clearly defined. If an academy wanted to sell land they would have to consult with the County and the County would receive the majority of any money raised. We do not see this as a way forward for us as our grounds are a key part of our school.</b></p> <p>Is the timing of you deciding to investigate Academy status in any way influenced by the imminent curriculum changes due to be rolled out from September 2014? If becoming an academy allows RJS to have more control over their own curriculum, how do you foresee this will differ from the proposed new roll out government curriculum changes &amp; pupil measurements, will it allow RJS to opt out of the proposed changes and continue to follow the existing curriculum? Do you foresee this would have any future implications when transferring to secondary curriculums?</p> <p><b>The timing is not influenced by the new National Curriculum and we have been planning for elements of this. As an academy we have more curriculum freedom and we would want to protect the parts of the curriculum that we have developed, for example literacy. We have invested huge resources into literacy as a result writing is a strength of the school – we would not want to change this as the curriculum is bespoke to Ravenscote, we would want to continue this.</b></p> <p><b>If we decided to opt out of parts of the national curriculum we could but we do not foresee us doing this.</b></p> <p><b>With regards to secondary school we do not see any big changes that would be detriment to the children. A key part of our work is preparing the children for their next stage of education, Ofsted inspects this element in schools, therefore it is a key outcome for us as a school.</b></p>