**MINUTES OF** **PARENT AND COMMUNITY** **ACADEMY CONSULTATION MEETING AT**

 **KENTON 23.01.18**

Present – Parents; School volunteer; Executive Headteacher; Governors; Playbox pre-school leader; Parish Councillor; Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Teignmouth Learning Trust (TLT) and Primary Principal

1. Where are things as regards benefits being equal across the expanded Academy? This was one of the prime reasons for choosing TLT. Everyone wants to benefit from each other’s experience and expertise. Collaboration and partnership are the driving aims
2. Kenton school field – how do the Parish Council stand with their lease? The Academy will be leasing the field from Devon County Council for 125yrs and the parish council will sublet from the Trust on the same terms and conditions
3. Who is responsible for the ethos of the school and land use? The schools continue to be responsible for their own ethos according to their individual context. The Diocesan rules protect the interests of Kenn school. The Trust would only intervene if there was a problem.
4. A Multi Academy Trust (MAT) has much more of a business nature – how does this affect things? The Trust is a charitable Trust and must run efficiently and ethically, but it is not for profit making
5. What about the Dawlish Learning Partnership (DLP)? In the past this was a very beneficial organisation providing collaboration, training and opportunities for staff and pupils in a fairly informal way. Unfortunately it is now much reduced with much less on offer. The Trust will provide the same but on a more formal basis. The Federation will also maintain its other outside links.
6. How will staff be affected? We are looking to be able to offer much more in the way of staff opportunities and retention through the benefits of broader support networks and exchange of experience and ideas, as well as job possibilities.
7. What about future changes such as vast expansion, changes of structure or nature? There are no plans for this at all. The newly expanded MAT will need time to bed in and ensure all the schools gain as much benefit as possible. Any other school asking to join would have to meet all the criteria we have agreed.
8. What about the ownership of the building? This will not change, but the lease will be held by the Trust, not Devon County Council on a 125yr lease, as with the land (see 2 above). The Trust has a funding agreement which is reviewed every 7 yrs.
9. What happens if everything falls apart? This would be unlikely to be a funding issue, but more to do with standards. However, each school is still separately inspected by Ofsted and it would be expected that any difficulties in an individual school would be pre-empted and helped by the Trust before becoming a major problem. Support would come from across the family of schools using the enhanced expertise available. Any poor Ofsted outcome would be down to the Trust to rectify. At an extreme level, if the problem was Trust wide, schools would be re-brokered to other academies.
10. Would the schools become feeder schools to Teignmouth Secondary? This cannot happen, as the Admissions Policy does not allow it. However, parental choice still holds and applications can be made but places cannot be guaranteed.
11. Would being in an Academy affect curriculum choices and organisation? These remain the responsibility of each school. The National Curriculum will still be followed and delivered as best suits each school. However, there will definitely be sharing and cherry picking of ideas across the 4 primary schools
12. Will there be more opportunities for training and development of volunteers e.g. in knowing how to help with reading? This also applies to parents and it is hoped that more of the type of sessions already offered in Maths can be offered.
13. What can/do primaries bring to secondary schools? Every stage of education is laying the foundations for the next level up. There can also be transition benefits as the primaries develop best preparation for secondary education, meaning children are fully ready to go when they start. Also Teaching and Learning strategies cross mingle, so the secondary school can utilise some primary approaches.