



Bessemer Grange Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Ms Sarah Beard

Head of School: Mrs Elizabeth Whitehead

4.2.19

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last 3 years, Bessemer Grange has been working very successfully with Keyworth Primary School through an informal Soft Federation. The Governors of each school now want to build on today's stability and move to a permanent arrangement. To formalise what is already happening and to continue to see the benefits for both schools, they have proposed entering into a Hard Federation – the full details are set out in the consultation paper, which has been sent to all parents, carers and staff.

What will it mean for our school?

A move from Soft to Hard Federation would mean **NO CHANGES** to:

- Name of our school
- Uniform
- Sarah Beard as Executive Head Teacher
- Leadership and staff
- Funding and budget
- Teaching
- Admissions
- Ofsted inspections or existing Good rating
- School policies and procedures

As a Soft Federation we already ...

- Share resources
- Share expertise and experience across all areas of the schools
- Share successful policies
- Share best practice
- Offer each other advice and guidance
- Share staff training
- Keep staff as opportunities for staff development are doubled

As a Hard Federation we would carry on doing all of the above and ...

- Have one Governing Body instead of two
- Use our two budgets with greater flexibility and impact

If you want to send questions or comments on the federation proposal, you can write a letter to the Chair of Governors and give it (or post it) to the school office; you can send an email to consultation@bessemer.southwark.sch.uk or you can come to one of the meetings with Governors and members of the Senior Leadership Team below:

Open meeting: 11th February 2019 at 6.30pm

Drop-in session: 25th February 2019 at 9.00am

Any questions or comments must be given **no later than 18th March 2019 at 3.30pm.** That evening, the Governing Bodies of both schools will consider all responses received and make a formal decision about whether the hard federation should go ahead.

If you need help with the consultation document, please let the school office know and they will try to ensure that you can contribute to the consultation process.

Yours Faithfully

Karen Azaadi – Chair of Governors