



# Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College

Stanstead Abbots, Nr. Ware, Station Road, Hertfordshire, SG12 8EH

**Headteacher:** Mrs Jan Liversage  
B. Ed., Ad. Dip., B. Phil. (MSI)

8<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## Consultation Process as part of Academisation - Staff

Led by Senior Leadership Team: Jan Liversage (Headteacher), Neil Ward (staff Governor Representative and Deputy Head) and Jane Connolly (Deputy headteacher)

Note Taker: Janet Warrington (clerk to the Governors)

### Staff Present:

Lauren O'Leary  
Lorraine Marlow  
Lydia Algar  
Margareta Hage-Dando  
Natasha Freeman  
Ellen-May Shipp  
Pauline Powala  
Jodie Lynch  
Kate Bannington

## MINUTES

JSL welcomed the staff and explained that this meeting was part of the consultation process that the governors had called to enable them to decide whether the time was right for Amwell View School and Specialist Sports Club to become an Academy.

JSL explained that letters had been sent to parents and stakeholders (including local organisation) who may have an interest if the school became an academy. So far no feedback has been received.

When considering what it means for staff, JSL explained that the employment law and contracts will remain the same and that there would not be any difference. The only change would be if staff moved from Amwell View to another local authority maintained school because it may affect their pension.

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If we were forced into a Multi Academy Trust we would have a Trust sitting above all the schools who would make the decisions and hold the funding for all of the schools.

Q. If we wanted to proceed with a project like installing a salon we would need to go to the Trust before we could do anything?

A. Yes we would need to ask for their agreement.

Three years ago we were ready to become an Academy, however, I went to a Conference and listened to professor Barry Carpenter. It was to do with becoming an Academy I believe it was about the Curriculum, and he said "If it doesn't benefit the pupil then don't do it." At that time I believed becoming an Academy wouldn't have benefitted the pupils, however, today I believe we need to protect this school and keep control for the benefit of the pupils and therefore becoming a SAT is the best solution.

Q. Do we have to get businesses to support us?

A. We have sent letters out to the stakeholders and if a business approaches us with the view of being a part of our trust then we would look at it.

We have a budget of £2.6 million and we want to be able to be in control of this budget. As a school we already employ services: catering, cleaning, electricians, plumbers etc. The local authority has supplied services in the past and taken a top slice of 15%, so we have been sourcing different services for some time; we have not had local authority restrictions for a long time. Things will not change that much at all.

Q. Would holidays and half-term dates change?

A. There is every intention to keep them in-line with the usual school holiday pattern, however, we would have control over what works best for our pupils and parents.

If in the future you think of something or want to ask a question please come and find one of the Senior Leadership Team.

Q. Have you had much back from parents?

A. We have received nothing as yet. It isn't anything new as schools are into the 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> year of academisation, so I guess parents are familiar and used to schools converting to an Academy and it isn't something they are worried or concerned about.

If anything changes in the meantime we will let staff know.