



HASSENBROOK SCHOOL

SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

Headteacher: Mr R W Glasby MBA

5th April 2011

Our Ref: HT/YT

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you now as part of another consultation, this time relating to Academy status.

You may know that the Government has changed the rules for schools becoming Academies so that it is now the case that successful schools can take on this status.

What could becoming an Academy mean for Hassenbrook?

Under the new Academies system, the Government would grant a school the right to make a number of changes. These include:

- Greater budget control (direct from the Department for Education) and receipt of extra money for the purchase of services previously provided by the Local Authority.
- Curriculum freedom - the academy must teach Maths/English/Science (and some form of Religious Education)
- Freedom from the Local Authority. The Academy would be answerable directly to the Department for Education.
- Freedom to change staff pay and conditions of employment.
- Freedom to change the school day and the length of terms.

/cont.

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Freedom from the Local Authority would mean that the school was still answerable for all aspects of its performance but this would now be directly to the Department for Education.

Standards would not be allowed to fall in any way. The school, for instance, would still be subject to regular OFSTED inspections as in the past.

We are not considering making any major changes to our curriculum or to the school day and lengths of terms beyond those that I wrote to you about recently.

There are financial gains which would come out of this process which, in the difficult financial times, cannot be ignored. These gains would help us to secure higher standards of teaching for the students within the school.

I am aware that I have written to you several times recently about significant changes for the school. These are times of rapid change in education and I will try to make sure that you are kept fully aware of the impact of any changes for the school and that I consult with you over as many of these potential changes as possible.

I would, therefore, be grateful to receive any comments or queries you may have about the move to Academy status. Depending upon the nature of all your replies, I may then make responses to you individually or perhaps through a parent/school meeting.

Please complete the reply slip below, making any comments you may wish to make and return to me no later than Thursday 28th April 2011.

Yours sincerely

**R.W. Glasby
Headteacher**

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REPLY SLIP TO BE RETURNED TO MR GLASBY - HEADTEACHER

I acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding academy status and *would like to make the following comments/not like to make any comments. (**please delete as applicable*)