

Corbridge Church of England First School

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Head Teacher: Miss Jennifer Ainsley

Chair of Governors: Mrs Gayle Baty



21st May 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

Between 22nd March and 10th May, we ran a stakeholder consultation into proposals to form a federation between our school and Broomhaugh Church of England First School. Those with an interest in the schools, as parents, staff, members of the community or other, were able to ask questions about the proposals and formally give their views to be taken into account in the decision making. We thank everyone who asked questions and took the time to respond to the consultation – as always, your opinions, questions and support are valued and appreciated.

On the website, you will find a report which has been prepared for governors which goes into the consultation responses in more detail. In summary, taking all responses across both schools, there were no responses indicating that stakeholders did not agree with the proposal. 71% of all responses were positive, 18% held no view either way and 11% remained undecided.

Governors from both schools met on Wednesday 19th May to discuss the report and voted separately on the next steps. At that meeting there was a vote in favour of proceeding with a federation between the two schools with 17 votes in favour and 1 abstaining.

Therefore, from Friday July 16th 2021 (assuming all tasks are completed by this date), we are pleased to announce that we will formally create a federation to be known as: The Federation of Broomhaugh and Corbridge (VA) Church of England First Schools.

We, as governors, are incredibly excited by this new stage for the schools. Both our schools are strong and offer many opportunities to support each other on our journeys going forward. Ultimately, the most important factor is that Broomhaugh and Corbridge continue to be schools full of happy, thriving children and that will continue to be our focus as we develop.

Parents and carers may still have questions and I would encourage you to always feel able to ask and discuss issues with Miss Ainsley and Mrs Gray at any time as I know they are always keen to hear from you.

Finally, I'd like to take the opportunity to say thank you to Miss Ainsley and Mrs Gray for their incredible leadership and commitment across both schools during the past two years. The past year in particular has been very challenging but all of the staff team have rallied to provide the best for our children. Whilst we will be very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Gray in the summer, we wish her all the best in her new post and we know that her new school is very lucky indeed to have her! Over the coming weeks, we are confident we will recruit another experienced deputy head to join the existing strong staff teams we have at both Broomhaugh and Corbridge.

Once again, thank you for your support and we will be in touch with further details as they emerge.

With very best wishes,

Gayle Baty

on behalf of Corbridge Church of England First School Governing Board