



17<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Local Community Members,

## **Re: Proposed Change of Status of Polesden Lacey Infant School to Academy Status**

The governing body of Polesden Lacey Infant School is considering a proposal to convert our school to an academy as part of LEO Academy Trust. We believe it's important to involve our local community in this decision and would like to explain this proposal and how you can share your thoughts.

### **What does becoming an academy mean?**

An academy is a state-funded school that operates independently of the local authority. It receives funding directly from the central government and has more freedom in how it operates.

We are proposing to join LEO Academy Trust, a well-established group of academies that includes several local schools.

### **How might this benefit our community?**

We believe becoming an academy could offer several benefits:

- Potential for increased funding: This could enable us to further invest in resources and facilities, benefiting our pupils and potentially the wider community.
- Enhanced curriculum and extracurricular activities: Greater flexibility could allow us to tailor our offerings to better meet the needs of our pupils and potentially offer additional opportunities for the community.
- Stronger partnerships: Collaboration with other academies within LEO Academy Trust could foster partnerships that benefit our school and the local area.

### **Will the school change significantly?**

We want to reassure you that the core values and ethos of Polesden Lacey Infant School will remain the same. We do not anticipate major changes beyond those aimed at improvement. The school's name will

change to Polesden Lacey Infant Academy, but our uniform, logos, and day-to-day school life will largely remain unchanged.

### How can you get involved?

We value your input and encourage you to share your thoughts on this proposal. You can:

- Attend a community meeting: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September in the school hall from 5pm to 7pm
- Submit your feedback in writing by 8<sup>th</sup> October to: [consultation@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:consultation@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk)

The consultation period will run from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024. We will carefully consider all feedback before making a final decision.

Thank you for your interest in the future of Polesden Lacey Infant School.

Yours sincerely,

*M. Rogers*

Mark Rogers, Chair of Governors



Rebecca Mole, Headteacher Polesden Lacey Infant School