

19th April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you to inform you of the proposed next steps in terms of the way forward for Canon Lee School. It is clear that Canon Lee is rapidly improving as a school as evidenced by the recent Ofsted monitoring visit. The process of the removal from special measures takes between 18 and 24 months to complete.

Canon Lee School is currently in special measures and Government policy, now formalised by legislation, is that all schools, such as Canon Lee, which are placed into Special Measures, should rapidly become sponsored academies. The Department for Education's Regional School's Commissioner (RSC), who is responsible for delivering this policy, has identified Hope Learning Trust as the preferred sponsor for Canon Lee.

Since November 2015 I have been Executive Headteacher at Canon Lee and Joseph Rowntree Schools as part of partnership arrangements to bring about the rapid improvement needed at Canon Lee which Ofsted identified as being necessary. These arrangements will remain in place until after the GCSE examinations in June. Work to secure improvement at the school and good results for pupils will continue under the existing partnership arrangements whilst the Hope Learning Trust, Canon Lee School and the City of York local authority cooperate to ensure a smooth transition to sponsored academy status.

Alan Lodge, Chair of Governors at Canon Lee, said:

"We have resolved to move to academy status as part of the Hope Learning Trust in the best interests of our school, its pupils and the community it serves and are looking forward to working with the trust for continued and sustained improvement. Richard Crane, as Executive Headteacher, has helped us make significant progress in a short time. We are pleased that he will continue to lead the school until after this summer's exams and support the transition to academy status with Hope".

I am really pleased that staff and students of Canon Lee School have responded so positively after the full inspection which took place in October. We are all delighted with the pace of change and progress that has been made, which is reflected in the findings of the recent monitoring report by Ofsted. I am confident that in the next few months we will continue to build upon the progress made to ensure that the students of Canon Lee School get the learning experience that sets them up for success.

I will be working with the team until 24th June, and in the next few months and beyond I am confident that the Senior Leadership Team are committed to continue the pace of rapid improvement moving forward. Thank you for your continued support of Canon Lee School.

Yours sincerely



Richard Crane
Executive Headteacher