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Head Teacher: Katharine Ellwood

19 July 2018

Dear All,

We are writing to update you on the progress of Academy Conversion for the five schools in the proposed Berkhamsted Educational Trust.

Further to previous correspondence you are aware that Ashlyns School, Bridgewater Primary School, Greenway Primary and Nursery School, Swing Gate Infant School and Nursery and Westfield Primary School and Nursery have been developing an exciting partnership to strengthen and develop even further the high quality of education currently provided for the children and young people across Berkhamsted.

Our Working Group, comprising of Heads and Governors representing each of the five Schools, Trustees Designate and Members Designate, has met regularly over the past 18 months to closely manage and develop this process.

We know you have not heard directly from us for some time (although schools have provided previous updates directly). This is due to the depth of the due diligence process undertaken by the Working Group and the Governing Bodies as we strive to ensure that the proposed Trust can deliver the best possible education for the children and young people within its academies. This has not been a straightforward process and the model has evolved over this time. We have kept in close touch with the Department for Education throughout and based on their feedback we have developed a more united "One Trust" model with even stronger collaboration across all the schools and a full time CEO. The dedicated CEO role will have scope to focus on the delivery of the best educational path for the Trust's children and our goal to become a nationally recognised high performing educational Trust. The developed plan has been presented to the Governing Bodies of all the participating schools and they have agreed that this is the right way forward.

Once we hear back from the Department for Education with its decision on the plans, which will likely be in the Autumn term, we will be in touch again with details of further stakeholder information meetings. In the meantime should you have questions, please contact us via email to (admin@greenway.herts.sch.uk. Please note that we will be unable

to respond to queries during the summer holidays but they will be addressed during the Autumn term.

Enjoy the summer and we will be in touch again next term.

Kind regards

Katharine Ellwood and Elizabeth O'Reilly

Headteacher and Chair of Governors

