



**Bluecoat Academies Trust**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents,

Bluecoat Academy enjoys a rich and varied history. From 1706 Bluecoat has stood for education for all within the context of a Christian faith ethos. We are deeply proud of this history and cherish all that it has meant for generations of children being proud members of the Bluecoat family.

With this history in mind we are constantly looking to the future to ensure that all that Bluecoat means will be nurtured and cared for into the future. To this end Bluecoat has seen many changes over many centuries.

Most recently Bluecoat School became Bluecoat Academy in 2012. Bluecoat then became a family of schools or MAT (Multi Academy Trust) in 2014 when it took on the sponsorship of what was then Hadden Park High School, now known as Bluecoat Beechdale. In January 2015 this family grew a Primary phase and what was one school on one site became four schools on four sites with the addition of a teacher training facility (SCITT).

As the Bluecoat family has grown and developed, there have been changes with its leadership and governance. Each site now has its own bespoke leadership to oversee the local issues relevant to that site. In addition to Local Governance the MAT now has a Trust Board and Members who appoint the Trustees.

Despite the many changes Bluecoat Academy has undertaken, it is still seen by the Department for Education as one site. This site covers Bluecoat Aspley, Bluecoat Wollaton Park and Bluecoat Primary. In order to continue to grow and thrive I believe we now need to clarify some of these arrangements by separating out the Unique Reference Number that each school is given by the Department for Education. This will allow us to have Local Governing Bodies that really scrutinise local issues relevant to each site (now each an Academy in its own right). It will also make the admissions process much clearer with parents able to preference the particular site (now Academy) they wish their child to attend. From an external perspective it will allow bodies such as Ofsted to hold each site to account without trying to come up with a generic grading for all of the sites.

It goes without saying that the high standards for which Bluecoat is well known, the outstanding pastoral support, the Church of England faith ethos, our commitment to the best curriculum, teaching and learning and enrichment will all remain the same. The passion for education will be the same as it has always been and the commitment to provide the best possible education for all will be just the same in 2017 as it was in 1706.

Over the next eight week period we will be holding a formal consultation with all those involved in Bluecoat's journey. We would very much like you to contribute to this consultation and let us know your views about this proposed change. You can respond using the email address: [consultation@bluecoat.uk.com](mailto:consultation@bluecoat.uk.com)

The deadline for your responses will be 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017. If you would prefer to write then please contact us on the address below. If you would like to speak to us in person we will be holding two open events. The first will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 5.45pm in the Recital Hall at the Aspley Lane

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Campus. The second one will take place at our Primary School (Harvey Road, Bilborough, Nottingham NG8 3BB) on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 2.30pm.

As the sites will be separating their URN numbers this will have an impact on our Admissions Policy. The proposed new admissions arrangements for all three sites are to be found on our website under admissions; you can also access this information on the Local Authority website. The deadline for any admissions comments need to be received by 13<sup>th</sup> January on the above email or contact us directly.

Your views are important to us and we value the time that you take to give them to us.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Hampton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sian Hampton  
Executive Principal