

Dear All

We would like to echo the views of other parents at Round Hill. We are concerned that there has been a lack of consultation with parents on the proposal for the school to join the White Hill MAT. Personally, I would like to know more about what it would mean for Round Hill to become an Academy and to join the White Hill MAT. In particular, what are the perceived benefits, potential risks, what checks are there in place to ensure that the academic performance and socio-emotional welfare of the children does not suffer, during the transition and beyond?

We've read that becoming an academy can mean greater control over budgets, curriculum and staff selection. Are there specific changes Round Hill would like to make in these areas that would make it worthwhile becoming an Academy? We were disappointed with the latest performance figures for the school for 2017-18 - is this a consideration for the School in determining whether or not to go forward with this proposal?

Furthermore, one of the predictors of success of MATs seems to be the degree of similarity between the cultural ethos of the membership schools - has this been considered in terms of how well Round Hill would fit within the White Hill MAT? Would this be the best one for us to join if there is an ambition to move to academy status? What about the Spencer Academy Trust - although larger, would this provide a better option?

Overall, we are neither for nor against the proposal at the moment and acknowledge there are some potential benefits to having greater control rather than being limited by the LA, but it would be good to have more information, and to know how exactly the School are weighing up the pros and cons.

Thanks for taking the time to read this email. We look forward to engaging with the School on this important matter.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]