

16th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Consultation regarding the formation of a Hard Federation

Since January 2017, Kintore Way Nursery School and the Grove Nursery School (also known as the Grove Children and Family Centre) have been in a 'Soft Federation'. This has established a close partnership between the settings. During this time, Rebecca Sherwood has been the Executive Headteacher for the two schools and they have shared expertise and come together for joint training. There are a number of staff that have worked across the partnership to ensure both schools have high standards of education and care.

The Governors of Kintore Way Nursery School and Children's Centre and the Governors of the Grove Nursery School met in the autumn term to consider the next steps to ensure continued success of this partnership. Both governing bodies have agreed to proceed to a public consultation regarding the two schools becoming a Hard Federation, starting on Tuesday 23rd April 2019.

The aim of the Hard Federation is to strengthen the two Maintained Nursery Schools and ensure the highest quality of early years practice is provided for all the children. Maintained Nursery Schools have a long-standing tradition of supporting all children in an inclusive and child-centred learning environment. We are proud of being Nursery Schools and feel that we are stronger as two schools together. We share a common ethos and vision and together, we can adapt our curriculum to ensure we are meeting the needs and interests of our children in an exciting and rich learning environment. We want both schools to continue to go from strength to strength, building on existing exemplary practice and develop our role as beacons of best practice. There will also be opportunities for increased efficiencies through economies of scale by joint purchasing and shared deployed resources.

There will be one single governing body (please see the Instrument of Government attached, Appendix 1). The governing body will take a strategic view of the needs of both schools and ensure that the governors' expertise can be shared across both settings.

The period of consultation lasts six weeks. In addition to consulting with parents, staff and children, the governors are also required to consult with others, including the Local Authority. These proposals are made with the full support of both Governing Bodies, the Executive Headteacher and Southwark Local Authority. During this time, the responses to the consultation will be collected and collated for consideration by the two Governing Bodies, after which they will vote on whether to proceed with the federation.

Included with this letter is a consultation document with an events' timeline (Appendix 2), and an opportunity for parents to visit the other school. Please read the attached documents carefully. You can make your views known by completing a response form (Appendix 5). The consultation will close on 27th February 2019 at 5.00pm.

A copy of this letter and the consultation document can also be found on the websites for both schools.

Yours sincerely,



Angela Scattergood

Chair of Governors

Kintore Way Nursery School and Children's Centre

The Grove Nursery School (also known as the Grove Children and Family Centre)