



3 November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Meeting with Fairchildes Academy Community Trust (FACT)

Thank you to those of you who came to our meeting with Ros Sandell (Executive Head) and RoseAnne Ellis (Chair of the Trust) from FACT last night. Ros gave a brief presentation on the ethos and values of FACT and the way in which the trust works, then she and RoseAnne answered questions.

FACT has a very clear focus on putting children first and are determined that everything the trust does, in each of its schools, has the children's academic and personal development at heart. They are committed to inclusivity and make sure that all children and families are welcomed and supported. They were very clear that no form of selection would be added to our admission criteria.

I know many parents were pleased to hear that Monks Orchard would keep its identity if we were to join FACT; there would be no change in name or uniform. Also, that FACT have no specific curriculum, programmes or staffing structures that they would insist on Monks Orchard adopting. Their approach is one of co-operation and sharing good practice across schools, not imposing a "one size fits all," approach.

The governing body feel that FACT is a very good fit for Monks Orchard. We share the same ethos and values and we know that we will still be able to keep our identity. We will now complete a 'due diligence,' process to make sure we have all the information we need about FACT, before making our final decision and submitting an application for conversion to the Department for Education. We are hopeful that we will be able to make that final decision in January, which would mean a possible conversion date of September 2018.

We have re-opened our consultation e-mail account, so if you have any more questions or comments please let us know using: consultation@monksorchard.co.uk. We will, of course, keep you up to date with further developments.

Enjoy the Bonfire Night celebrations over the weekend and remember to stay safe around the fireworks.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Yours sincerely

Guy Fairbairn
Headteacher

