



Billingshurst Primary School
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Wednesday 16th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Recently I wrote to you to inform you that a Multi-Academy Trust, Schoolsworks, have put in a bid to the DfE to open a new free school planned for Billingshurst. The bid has been submitted and they are waiting for the DfE's response. Schoolsworks contacted me early in the process of making their application to indicate they would like to work in partnership with Billingshurst Primary.

A new school has been planned for Billingshurst to address the issue of housing development and the requirement for more school places in the village. We are now full and the pressure on places is growing and for that reason we are supportive of Schoolsworks application for the new free school. Mindful of the importance of working closely with the new school, Schoolsworks and Billingshurst Primary are developing a partnership and we are now 'Associate Members' of this Academy Trust; a loose partnership allowing the sharing of good practice and to develop plans for the new school. We are all keen to ensure cohesive and jointly planned educational opportunities for all the children of Billingshurst. We will be working closely together in this partnership, learning about this academy trust, developing a joint understanding of each other's work with a possible future decision to join Schoolsworks Trust.

Schoolsworks and Billingshurst Primary would like to invite you to a community event at the school at 3.30pm on Wednesday 7th December. The event will be run by Schoolsworks to let you know their plans for the new school and to canvas your ideas and the school will be supporting this. Any future plans to progress our membership further with Schoolsworks Academy Trust would be fully shared with you at a future consultation.

Both Schoolsworks and BPS look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 7th December.

Yours sincerely

Helen Williamson
Headteacher

