



Headteacher: Mr T Burton, MA (Cantab)

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Dear Parent/Carer

Working with York High School

The Chair of our Trust, Edwin Thomas, wrote to you earlier this month to explain that the Trust is considering sponsoring York High School and that we had applied to the Department for Education to be approved as a sponsor. I can now confirm that we have been accepted as a sponsor and that the Trust will continue to explore the risks involved before coming to a final decision. As Chair of Governors at Millthorpe, I am now writing to bring you up to date about how this might affect Millthorpe School.

If the Trust decides to go ahead, Millthorpe School would provide the school improvement service for York High School and new leadership arrangements will be needed in both schools. Our Headteacher, Trevor Burton, would become Executive Headteacher responsible for the improvement of both Millthorpe and York High. His role will be to make the best plans and carry them out to ensure that both schools improve. He would need to spend about half his time at each school.

The daily leadership and management of Millthorpe School would be by a new post - Head of School - and both Millthorpe and York High will have one. We are about to advertise for this post and the person appointed will work with Trevor Burton to continue our aim of becoming an outstanding school. Trevor Burton will also have the task of ensuring that these two new Heads of School are supported in the first few years of their headships so they develop into outstanding heads. The Trust does not view these arrangements as permanent and in due course expects both schools to have the more traditional structure of a single headteacher. We also anticipate some other leadership roles becoming available in Millthorpe for internal applicants to give us increased capacity to support York High School.

You will be aware that this is a time of austerity for schools and such structures come at a cost. For work such as this, funding is available from the Department for Education, and the Trust will now negotiate to ensure that the financial support fully covers all our foreseeable costs. The Trust will also continue its work to identify and deal with all relevant risks before any decision to proceed. In the event that sponsorship of York High School does not go ahead, Trevor Burton will remain as Headteacher of Millthorpe School.

We will keep you informed of developments.

Yours faithfully

Bill Schofield

Bill Schofield
Chair of Governors