

# Whitehill Community Trust School

A fully extended service, educating children from 3-11



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[www.whitehillcalderdale.org.uk](http://www.whitehillcalderdale.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mr R Hepplestone M Ed

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Dear Union Representatives,

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February the Governing Body of Whitehill Community Trust School voted overwhelmingly in favour to register their interest in converting to Academy Status. An Academy is a publicly funded independent school which is free from local authority control. We will keep our Trust and will continue to improve our school by developing innovative projects for both staff and children. Becoming an Academy will further support the development of the school for our children in the future.

Academy Status means that the Governors will employ all staff as they do for the Trust. The land and assets will transfer from the Trust to the Governors which is a minor change. However, we will have much greater freedoms to innovate. Financially, we will be significantly better off which will mean more favourable staffing and more resources for children. Opportunities for staff development and succession planning will be highly developed and we will be able to build our Leadership and Management team by keeping the team together into the future as we work collaboratively with another school. Staff are overwhelmingly in favour of this change of status and believe, as always, that children and high standards come first.

Clearly, over the next month we are keen to gather your views and invite you to an initial meeting to discuss our proposal. **The date for this is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 10:00 a.m.** We would ask that you confirm your attendance.

Ultimately, the Governors will make a decision on this initiative when the Funding Agreement is finalised.

More information is provided with the enclosed Academy Guide and is also available direct from schools and the DfE website which can be found on the following links:

[www.whitehillcalderdale.org.uk](http://www.whitehillcalderdale.org.uk)

[www.education.gov.uk/academies](http://www.education.gov.uk/academies)

Yours Faithfully,

Roy Hepplestone

Headteacher

Proud to be the founding member of the Whitehill Community Learning Trust

