

Oakwood High School

A Specialist Arts, Technology and Sports College



27 May 2010

Dear Parent/Carer,

At a meeting of the school Governing Body on 24th May 2010 it was decided to:

- change school category from Community to Foundation;
- adopt a charitable Trust named Oakwood Co-operative Learning Trust, which shall be a co-operative membership trust;
- with effect from 1st June 2010.

This is in line with the consultation and published statutory proposal.

The decision was taken as the Governing Body believe the Trust will raise standards through the creation of a platform for on-going improvement. The resources and expertise brought to the Trust by the partners will strengthen strategic leadership, increase support and challenge and consolidate effective monitoring, thereby promoting improvement in outcomes for students.

The mutual co-operative nature of the membership trust with its high levels of stakeholder involvement and accountability will greatly assist in further raising the profile of education and the extended schools/Every Child Matters agenda across our community and lead to enhanced community cohesion.

This decision followed a wide consultation process during which all relevant parties were consulted and consultation meetings were held for pupils, staff, parents and the general public and unions and trade associations were consulted. Statutory guidance was followed and the views of those consulted were considered by the Governing Body prior to the required Statutory Proposal being published. All representations made in response to the Statutory Proposal were considered prior to the Governing Body deciding to proceed to implementation.

The Trust will contribute to the advancement of education in Oakwood Cooperative Learning Trust by working with partners to ensure effective progression. The Trust will make a difference in the following ways:

- The Trust will seek to develop relationships with all those involved in the educational and physical well-being of young people, creating a common sense of ownership.
- Through the strength of these relationships, both philosophical and operational, we will strive to ensure positive outcomes in terms of academic progress, social development and in the health and fitness of young people within our community.
- We will also, through our partner, Salford College, seek to offer enhanced vocational opportunities to our students enabling them to have a wider choice of career paths.
- The long term relationship with the organisational partners and the active engagement of the stakeholders through membership of the trust will contribute to the above aims. It will be part of a wider network of trusts working together within a shared value set to raise achievement and expectations.
- The trust will be a vehicle for accessing charitable funding and subsidiary trading activities to support its aims.

Chatsworth Road, Ellesmere Park, Eccles, Manchester. M30 9DY.

Tel: 0161 786 1920 Fax: 0161 786 1922

Email: enquiries@oakwoodhighschool.co.uk Website: <http://www.oakwoodhighschool.co.uk>



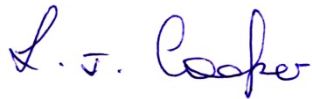
As a co-operative trust a Stakeholder Forum representing the various constituencies of membership shall be developed in the Trust's first year. (further details will be provided in the near future.) This Forum will represent the membership and hold the Trust to account. It shall also appoint 3 Trustees to the Trust Board.

The school will continue to be run and managed by the Governing Body as before with the additional benefits of Trust partners and 2 Trust nominated Governors to assist us in our future developments.

The Governing Body will replace the Local Authority as the Admissions Authority but shall continue to operate the current admissions arrangements, though reserving the right to review them as appropriate. The Governing Body also remains bound by the National Code of Conduct on Fair Admissions. Additionally the school's land and assets will now going forward, be held in trust by the new co-operative trust.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. J. Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Chair of the Governing Body.