

JC/jfh

10th December 2018

Dear Parents,

You may remember that I wrote to you in June informing you of our decision to explore the possibility of joining an Academy Trust in order to provide continuity and shared values across both the Infant and the Junior schools. I am writing to you to update you on the progress of our request to the Department for Education to convert to an Academy with a strong local provider.

The Governors at Stamshaw Infant School have explored a wide range of Academy Trusts and firmly believe that The University of Chichester Academy Trust is the best provider for us. Their ethos and values reflect ours and they provide a strong group of local schools for us to work with and opportunities to benefit from as a result of the educational expertise provided by an experienced University provider. I believe that this partnership will provide our school with amazing opportunities to join a family of schools working in the City of Portsmouth and to use the expertise and facilities of the University of Chichester who have been training teachers for more than 180 years.

As you know we are keen to move into this partnership alongside Stamshaw Junior School so that we can work together to provide a coherent and vibrant curriculum for your children and work together to support their learning journey from 4 -11 and beyond. The University of Chichester Academy Trust have supported the transfer of both schools and Governors have now received notification that the transfer has been approved. We hope to convert to academy status on the 1st April 2019.

The Chief Executive of the University of Chichester Academy Trust, Mrs Sue Samson is delighted with this news and looks forward to welcoming Stamshaw Infant and Junior Schools to the 'Family of Schools'. Mrs Samson plans to be in the school over the next few weeks and will join us in our library area so that parents can meet her when bringing their children to school.

This is a superb opportunity for both the schools at Stamshaw and a very exciting time in our journey. We are very much looking forward to joining the University of Chichester Academy Trust and to working even more closely with the other Portsmouth schools who are already within the Trust which include, Court Lane Infant and Junior, Flying Bull, Arundel Court, Highbury and Langstone Infant and Junior schools as well as with Stamshaw Junior school.

Please do not hesitate in making contact if you have any questions and we will ensure that we continue to work closely with you to secure the best possible future for our young children.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Cooper
Headteacher