

# **STATUTORY PROPOSAL FOR THE CHANGE OF STATUS FROM A COMMUNITY TO A FOUNDATION SCHOOL AND THE ACQUISITION OF A FOUNDATION FOR BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE**

## **1. INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION**

These Proposals are given in accordance with section 19 (3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of Bottisham Village College intends to make a prescribed alteration to Bottisham Village College, (a community school) Lode Road, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9DL.

The proposed alteration is for Bottisham Village College to change category from a community school to a foundation school and to acquire a foundation (hereafter referred to as a trust). Proposed alterations meet the requirements as set out under section 23a of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

### **How to make a representation**

These proposals are published on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Copies of these proposals can be obtained from the Main Reception at Bottisham Village College, Lode Road, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9DL. The proposals can also be viewed and downloaded at [www.bottishamvc.org](http://www.bottishamvc.org) Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, i.e. up to and including Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2010, any person may make representations on the proposals and send them to the Governing Body, Bottisham Village College, Lode Road, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9DL . Please mark envelopes 'Statutory Proposals for Trust Status'.

Following publication of the statutory notice and the four week period for representation, the Governors of Bottisham Village College will consider whether to approve the acquisition of the Trust. If these changes are approved, the planned implementation date for the change of status from a community school to a foundation school and the acquisition of the Trust is 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010.

## Consultation

Consultation on these proposals was carried for a period of over 5 weeks from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

**Appendix 1** contains a list of all those person consulted

A copy of the Consultation Document can be found at **Appendix 2**.

The consultation document and questionnaire was made available in hard copy, via email and on the college website at [www.bottishamvc.org](http://www.bottishamvc.org).

In addition parents/carers, staff, students at BVC and parents of children at our feeder primary schools were alerted to the consultation process via letter. Other interested parties/organisations received written communication, giving details of the process and directing them to sources of further information.

A number of consultation meetings were held:

1. A meeting for staff at Bottisham Village College took place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January
2. Open meeting for parents/careers and members of the community took place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January
3. Discussions with the Student Council took place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010

All applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult at all stages were complied with.

In addition to comments and questions raised at the staff and public meetings 23 written responses were received. These were from parents and carers, other interested persons and a trade union.

The Governors of Bottisham Village College considered the responses from the consultation on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at a meeting at Bottisham Village College. There were many positive points made by respondents who were fully supportive of the proposals but a minority of respondents also raised areas of concern. This included a detailed response from UNISON.

The Governors have produced feedback on the consultation which is enclosed here as **Appendix 3**. It is also available on the school website at [www.bottishamvc.org](http://www.bottishamvc.org) or, on request, in hard copy format. This document sets out the views expressed by those who responded to the consultation. The Chair of Governors responded, individually, to everyone who submitted written responses. Parents and carers have been notified as to the existence of the consultation feedback through correspondence via Schoolcomms. There has been feedback to all staff via email.

After taking into account the results of the consultation, the Governors decided to proceed to the publication of the Statutory Proposal. The minutes of the Governing Body meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2010 are available on request from reception at Bottisham Village College.

All applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult at all stages were complied with.

## **THE BOTTISHAM EDUCATION TRUST**

The name of the trust to be acquired by the Governing Body is the Bottisham Education Trust.

### **The rationale for the Trust and the ethos it will bring to the school.**

Bottisham Village College is an 11-16 mixed comprehensive school, committed to providing an inclusive education for all students in our catchment area. The Trust will be used to help to support the school in achieving the Every Child Matters outcomes. These are:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well-Being

The specific vision of the Trust will be to work with Bottisham Village College to underpin and support the wider collaboration that is essential for the full implementation of the Every Child Matters agenda, together with strengthening opportunities for learning in the wider community.

The Trust would do this by enabling Bottisham Village College to develop active and sustainable links with a range of partners. These links would initially focus on providing greater opportunities for meaningful relationships to develop between our students and representatives from partner organisations as well as providing expertise to advise and support staff in the development of the broader curriculum.

In practice this may manifest itself through

- Participation in Personal, Social and Health Education days
- Speaking to groups of students with a particular curriculum focus
- Providing work placements
- Providing an insight into the world of work to support the delivery of the work related curriculum
- Forging links with a particular curriculum area

In the longer term we will explore opportunities for joint professional development for staff in partner organisations.

Bottisham Village College has an excellent reputation, both locally and nationally. The most recent Ofsted inspection in September 2007 judged the school to be '*good with many outstanding features*'. Subsequently the school was recognised by the DCSF as a High Performing School, leading to the acquisition of a second specialism in Applied Learning.

The table below sets out the GCSE examination results for 2009:

	<b>BVC</b>	<b>National</b>
% 5 A*-C	80%	70%
% 5 A*-G	99.8%	98.3%
% 5A*-C inc eng & maths	69%	49%
%A*/A grade	39.0%	19.7%

Bottisham Village College is ambitious and committed to continual improvement. It is expected that the establishment of a Trust will contribute to this further improvement in outcomes in the following areas:

- Bottisham Village College will be designated "outstanding" by OfSTED, particularly with reference to its implementation of the Every Child matters agenda
- Levels of student achievement at Key Stage 4 will improve from their already high base, ensuring that they meet the Ofsted criteria for 'outstanding'.
- Achievement of the High Performing School and Applied Learning specialist targets
- The aspirations of all students will be high and the number of young people not in Education, Employment of training (NEET) will remain low with an ultimate aim of 100% of young people at 19 being in Education, Employment of Training.
- The collaborative working of the Trust in improving life chances of all students will make a significant contribution to community cohesion.
- The Trust's work will be viewed locally and nationally as a model of good practice in the support of children, young people and their families.

The Governing Body intend to appoint an external consultant to assess and monitor the performance and impact of the Foundation trust, in addition to any monitoring carried out by the Local authority and Ofsted.

Whilst the Trust will impact on the performance of the college as outlined above, governors remain committed to ensuring that Bottisham Village College maintains its village college ethos through the provision of Community Education and other learning and leisure opportunities for the benefit of our broader local community.

## **Details of the Trust's charitable objects**

The object of the Trust is to advance the education of the pupils at Bottisham Village College or at any other school in respect of which the Trust acts a Foundation. In carrying out its objects the Trust will have regard to its obligation to promote community cohesion under the Education Acts.

In particular, the charitable objects will be:

- Support the full implementation of the Every Child Matters agenda
- Raise achievement through collaboration
- Contribute to community cohesion by:
  - I. forging active partnerships to improve the life chances of all students
  - II. ensuring that Bottisham Village College remains at the heart of the local community, committed to providing life-long learning opportunities to all

## **Details of the membership of the proposed trust.**

The founding members and partners of the Bottisham Education Trust will be:

- Bottisham Village College
- Cambridge Building Society
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS trust
- Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
- The Marshal Group of Companies
- The National Stud
- Red to Green
- John Lewis Partnership

The Trust members will work in partnership to achieve the aims set out above. The members of the Trust are fully committed to working collaboratively to raise standards and aspirations of children, young people and their families. Through working together, the members of the Trust will contribute to community development. Examples of how the Trust partners will make these contributions to the school and the community are set out in **Appendix 4**.

## **Entitlements to appoint trustees and the number of trustees to be appointed by each member**

The Trust Board will meet a minimum of 3 times a year.

Each founding member of the Trust will be entitled to nominate a trustee or trustees to sit on the Trust Board. Bottisham Village College will nominate two Trustees (the serving Principal and a governor) to sit on the Trust Board. Each of the other partner organisations will nominate one trustee to sit on the Trust Board.

The Governing Body of Bottisham Village College will need to ensure that the (Requirements as to Foundations) (England) regulations 2007 are met. These regulations set out who may act as a trustee of an education foundation.

The Bottisham Education Trust will be a charitable, not-for-profit Trust, meeting the legal and other requirements relating to Trusts as set out by the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF). The Trust will be registered as a company limited by guarantee with Companies House. The Charities Commission will regulate its activities (as with all charities).

The individuals acting as Trustees will not be able to derive any income from the Trust, but the Trust may become an employer in order to achieve the delivery of its objectives by providing services and/or commissioning services to Bottisham Village College. Any income generated by the Trust must only be used to support its charitable aims.

The Bottisham Education Trust does not already act as a Trust for any other school.

## **The proposed constitution of the governing body**

The Trust will be entitled to appoint a minority of governors to the newly constituted governing body of Bottisham Village College. The size of the governing body will be 20 governors, with 7 elected parents, 2 Trust appointed governors (Foundation Governors), 4 Community Governors, 4 Staff governors, and 3 Local Authority Governors.

The Governing Body will remain legally responsible for all aspects of the conduct of the school, with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement. The Governing Body will have day-to-day control of the buildings and land. It will employ all the staff and will be responsible for pupil admissions in accordance with the School Admissions Code of Practice and the Local Authority's coordinated scheme for admissions.



Philip Hodgson  
Chair of Governors  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2010