

## **Consultation - Potential application for Northampton School *for Boys* (NSB) to become a Department for Education (DfE) Sponsor**

The Governing Body of Northampton School *for Boys* will be considering a decision shortly as to whether or not to apply to the Department for Education for NSB to become a Sponsor. The context for making the decision is set out below. There is a consultation phase where the Governors will consider comments / questions submitted by interested stakeholders by 4pm, Monday May 15th. Please submit any comments / questions that you wish to make by email or by post to the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Alison Roberts at the school: [aroberts@nsb.northants.sch.uk](mailto:aroberts@nsb.northants.sch.uk)

### **Context**

If the Governing Body of NSB choose to apply to be a Sponsor and the application is approved by the DfE then NSB will be in a position to apply to acquire and run new schools that are built in order to meet the basic need in the county or beyond for school places. NSB will also be able to apply to acquire and run schools that are identified as needing support by the Regional Schools Commissioner.

NSB would consider potential schools from different phases of education including Primary, Secondary, All-Through and Special. If NSB were to manage a further school then NSB would move from being a Single Converter Academy to Multi Academy Trust status.

If NSB became a Multi Academy Trust there would be a change to the leadership structure with Members and a Trust Board overseeing all the schools within the NSB Trust. All initial Members and members of the Trust Board will draw heavily on the existing Governing Body.

The Governors are committed to carrying out a comprehensive due diligence analysis of any prospective school. The Governors are immensely proud of NSB and are fully committed to ensuring that the operational and strategic management of any newly acquired school would not impinge on the outstanding standards of education for the students of NSB.

The Governors are considering a move to sponsor status for the following reasons:

- 1) The moral imperative to improve standards in education within a town and county that has significantly poor results in key performance indicators against the national average. NSB is an outstanding school and is well placed to have positive impact on a school which it takes over.
- 2) There is a need for a significant number of new schools in Northamptonshire with at least 6 new secondary schools and 25 new Primary Schools to be built by September 2021. This is because of growth in student numbers due to a combination of increasing birth rate, inward migration and new housing.

3) The advantages that Multi Academy trust status can bring including: promotion of best practice across all schools in the Trust and the eradication of bad practice, wider opportunity for staff development and potential economic benefit from economies of scale.

4) National strategy is committed to the development of Multi Academy Trusts to drive forward educational standards in this country for the foreseeable future. It is possible that NSB may be forced to join / become a Multi Academy Trust if the Governing Body decides not to apply to become a Sponsor at this point in time.

Once the consultation has been completed and the Governing Body has considered feedback and has made their decision, I shall inform all stakeholders of the outcome.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Bason', written in a cursive style.

Peter Bason  
Chair of Governors