



Calder High School

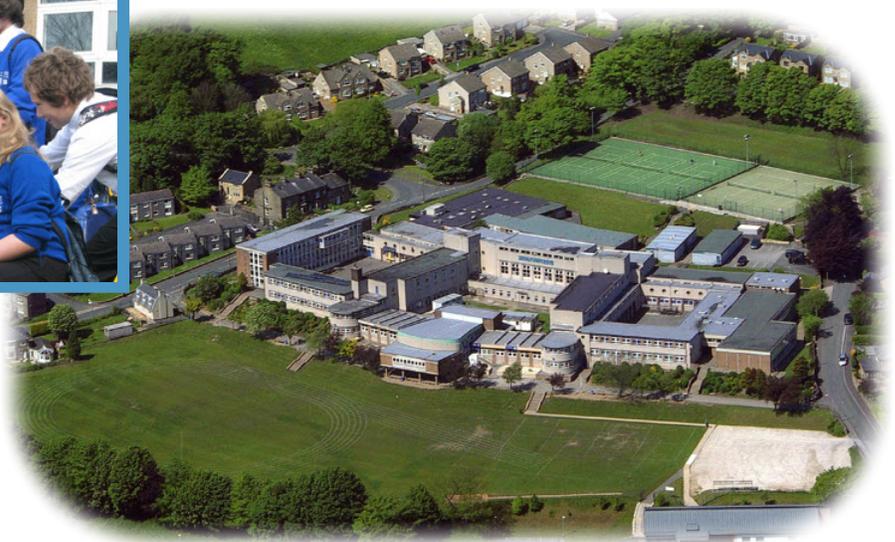
Acquiring Trust Status

A summary for parents, staff, students and other stakeholders

Introduction

The governing body of Calder High School is considering becoming a Foundation School and acquiring a Trust whose proposed name is The Calder Learning Trust.

This leaflet sets out the basic information around this and lets you know how you can tell us your views about this proposal.



"Developing exceptional people"

1 Why are the governors considering this?

Governors at Calder High School are committed to ensuring rapid school improvement and the best possible experience for every one of our students. Over the past twelve months we have worked closely with a range of partners to support our work and we are now looking to formalise this collaboration. We are looking to set up a Co-operative Trust linking in with the vision, values and benefits of the Co-operative movement.

2 What are the benefits of Trust status?

As a Co-operative Trust we would formalise the partnerships which have been a key factor in our improvements to date. Our prospective partners, The Brooksbank School, Calderdale College and the Local Authority will all offer support, expertise and the sharing of good practice. The Co-operative College will underpin our work as well as helping us to work closely with the local community.

3 What are the key features of a Trust?

As a Trust School many aspects of our organisation would stay the same.

- The school would continue to teach the National Curriculum, receive funding through the Local Authority, follow the School Admissions code and receive periodic visits from Ofsted.
- The school's governing body would continue to be responsible for running the school. Teachers would automatically continue to be employed on the same terms and conditions and governors would make sure that this was also true for non-teaching staff.

There are, however, a number of changes.

- The school's governing body would employ staff not the local authority. Staff will remain on their existing pay and conditions.
- School assets (grounds and buildings) would be held by the Trust rather than the local authority though the governing body and local authority will retain their particular responsibilities.
- The Trust will appoint additional governors to support and strengthen the governing body.
- It will also set up a Stakeholder Forum to represent the views of all members of the Trust including parents, staff, students and the local community.

4 What is the timescale?

The timescale for this process is as follows:

Stage 1

Tuesday 24 September Four week consultation begins

Thursday 3 October Consultation meetings to be held

Tuesday 22 October Consultation closes. Governors meet to consider whether to proceed to the next stage. If they decide to proceed

Stage 2

Friday 22 November Four week statutory notice period begins

Friday 20 December Four week statutory period ends

Saturday 1 February 2014 Proposed Trust would be established

5 How can you find out more?

More detailed information has been produced in the form of two booklets

Booklet 1 gives more detailed information about our proposed Trust.

Booklet 2 gives detailed information from the Co-operative College about the implications of acquiring Trust Status

Both booklets are available on our website

www.calderhigh.org.uk

or can be obtained from the school.

Please contact Christine Welch,
Clerk to the Governing Body,
telephone 01422 883213 or email

cwelch@calderhigh.calderdale.sch.uk

6 What is the consultation process?

We want to gather the views of all stakeholders and you are invited to do this in one of the following ways:

- Attend one of the consultation meetings which will be held on **Thursday, 3 October**.

§ Students during assemblies

§ Staff at 15.30

§ Unions 17.00

§ Parents at 18.00

§ Stakeholders at 19.00

- Complete the enclosed questionnaire which can be also downloaded from our website or obtained from Christine Welch, Clerk to the Governing Body, telephone 01422 883213 or email

cwelch@calderhigh.calderdale.sch.uk

The views from the meetings and questionnaires will be collated and presented to governors to inform the decision on how to proceed.

