



24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Application to form a Trust: Regional Director's Decision

Dear Families,

Following last year's consultation, the governors applied to the Department for Education to form a new School Trust. I am delighted to inform you that following yesterday's advisory board meeting, the Regional Director has **approved our application** to convert to academy status and form a new primary Trust, The Leaf Trust. This is an exciting outcome for our family of schools.

Before the advisory board meeting, the Regional Delivery team asked that we consider appointing a Chair of Trustees with experience in leading or chairing a Trust with a background in strategic educational leadership. I am extremely pleased to confirm that Margaret Simmons-Bird MBE has kindly agreed to take on this key role. This will add even greater capacity to our board and strengthen our Trust. Margaret is an experienced educator, chair of trustees and former director of education who recently received an honour for her services to education.

We strongly believe that by forming a new family of schools in a single Trust, we can better support each other to be the best primary schools we can be. Our mission is to ensure every child within our family of schools has the best education possible and opportunities beyond those a single school can offer. We are confident that together we can support staff development and recruitment and, through our People Plan, secure the retention of the best staff.

We aim to open the new Trust on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2023 and are now in the process of legal conversion. On Thursday, pupil representatives from all thirteen schools will come together to begin to shape our Pupil Pledge. This is set out what more our children will get from being in our school family.

I am honoured and proud to serve as CEO designate for The Leaf Trust and pledge to do all I can to ensure our schools provide the very best for the children and families they serve.

Kind regards

Ross Newman

CEO Designate

## Founding members of The Leaf Trust Family



**THE TYNINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Achieving together, inspiring each other



**Kings' Forest**  
Primary School



Belong

Grow

Succeed