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Mrs Lorna O'Brien
Headteacher
BA (Hons) QTS, CofEPQH

Monday 11th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Stakeholder Consultation for Academy Conversion

I hope you have all settled into the routine of the new school year.

Last term I wrote to all current parents and carers to advise that the governing body was considering the benefits of the school joining the Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust (LDST).

LDST was established by the Diocese of Liverpool in 2017 to keep the family of schools together with Jesus at the centre, and to provide an excellent education. As the Diocesan MAT for the Diocese of Liverpool, LDST has a very clear purpose, and an uncompromising vision. Christian values underpin the Trust's commitment to provide an innovative, high quality education, so that children and learners make excellent progress and fulfil their academic potential. The right of all to have an excellent education is at the heart of everything the Trust does.

Following further discussions in the summer term the governors firmly believe that converting to academy status and joining LDST is the right move for ASJ. Belonging to a strong family of church schools will give us access to a much larger pool of expertise to support our own developments, and will provide greater opportunities to collaborate and work in partnership with other schools across the Diocese. The way that LDST operates means that we will maintain our own ethos and local community feel, whilst continuing to come under the umbrella of the Liverpool Diocese.

As part of the formal process of converting, the school will progress an application to the Department for Education. The application will then be submitted to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for her to present to the Headteacher Board.

We would like to provide all parents and carers with an opportunity to ask any further questions as part of the conversion process. A consultation booklet can be found on the school website <https://www.ainsdalestjohns.com/page/academisation-consultation/140637> providing all the relevant information and I ask you to use the pro-forma at the back of the booklet to record any comments or questions. These can be returned to school (for the attention of the Governing Body – Academy Consultation) or emailed to consultation@ainsdalestjohns.org no later than Monday 9th October 2023.

We will also be holding a drop-in session in school at **3.30pm on Tuesday 10th October 2023**. This is an opportunity for any parents and carers to meet representatives from LDST along with Mrs O'Brien and governors, should you have any further questions to ask. Please identify to the school office if you need support with childcare so you can attend the meeting.

Kind regards,

John Forshaw

Chair of Governors
Ainsdale St. John's CE Primary School



Courage



Community



Compassion