

7th February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to you all expressing the deepest gratitude from all our school community for your support this week. We have been overwhelmed and it has been humbling to read your kind comments.

We all very much welcome the support expressed for our plan to convert to an academy with The GORSE Academies Trust (TGAT) that Alec Shelbrooke has posted on his [website](#). I also note that on his Facebook page he asks for families to continue writing to him, enabling him to 'properly represent your views to the DfE'. We understand that the Boston Spa proposal to join The GORSE Academies Trust is going before the minister, Lord Agnew, on Monday. I believe every letter counts at this stage, so I would ask that if you have not done so already you take Mr Shelbrooke up on his offer and write to him over these next two days using this email address: alec.shelbrooke.mp@parliament.uk.

Although the only proposal from Governors before the Minister is that Boston Spa should convert to an academy with TGAT I do not anticipate that we will have a response on this date. As soon as we have any substantive news we will, however, communicate this with our families.

If the Minister's decision is that we join TGAT, we expect the legalities to take place over the next three months. In this circumstance then no land will be sold, and the partnership plan we have agreed with TGAT will be accelerated into place, including the arrangements for the additional capital funding.

Lord Agnew does have two other options, to reject the partnership, or to delay a decision to allow for further consultation. Governors are resolute that the partnership with TGAT is absolutely the right direction for Boston Spa in providing the very best standard of education for our young people. We will therefore challenge either of these outcomes, exhausting every possible avenue. We have, as a 'Good' school, already followed expected practice, having held a legal, open and comprehensive consultation, in which families overwhelmingly supported the Governors' proposal to join TGAT. Governors will not be deterred from this goal.

Thank you again for your support; it has meant so much to us all.

Yours sincerely



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