

North Yorkshire County Council

Melsonby Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School North and South Cowton Community Primary School

Consultation on a proposal for federation

The Governing Bodies of Melsonby Methodist (VC) Primary School and North and South Cowton Community Primary School are consulting parents, staff and the local community on a proposal to change how the two schools are led and managed.

The proposal is to federate the two schools from 19 September 2018. We would welcome your views on this proposal.

This paper sets out what federation will mean and how you can make your views known. The consultation has the support of the Methodist Connexion and North Yorkshire County Council which maintains the two schools. County Council staff are helping the Governing Bodies with the analysis of the consultation results.

What is federation?

A federation is a formal agreement where two schools work together for the benefit of all pupils and school communities. The two schools are governed by one governing body with one headteacher. There is no blueprint for federation – each federation is tailored to meet the needs of the different schools and communities involved.

In this proposed federation, the two schools will remain legally separate schools each with their own budget, buildings and admissions policies. Leadership and management of the two schools will, however, be shared.

Why federation?

The two schools have been working in collaboration since 01 September 2017. The federation creates the opportunity to move beyond limited collaboration into a formal partnership to support all learners, staff and the wider community.

The shared Governing Body will provide an effective and accountable mechanism for the two schools to combine and share resources, purchasing arrangements and systems and staff expertise.

Sharing the leadership and management of the two schools will enable the adoption of a joint approach to teaching and learning, drawing on the best ideas from each as the federation develops wider curriculum opportunities for all pupils.

How will the federation be organised?

The two schools will be separate schools and retain their current names so pupils will be registered at either Melsonby Methodist (VC) Primary School or North and South Cowton CP School. Each school will keep its own school uniform.

How will admissions be dealt with?

Admissions will continue to be made to each school separately and North Yorkshire County Council will continue to be responsible for admissions to both schools.

What will the Governing Body of the federation look like?

A new Governing Body will be created for the federation. There will cease to be a separate Governing Body for each school. The new Governing Body will be formed under The School Governance (Federation) (England) Regulations 2012 as amended in 2016. The Governing Body will be composed of the following categories and numbers of Governors.

Category of Governor	Number
Elected Parent Governors	2
Headteacher	1
Elected Staff Governor	1
Local Authority Governor	1
Foundation Governors	2
Co-opted Governors	2
Total	9

What will be the staffing arrangements in the Federation?

School Staff will continue to be employed by North Yorkshire County Council and will be under the direction of the headteacher. School staff in post at each school at the date of federation will retain their existing terms and conditions of employment but they will be given every opportunity to work jointly where this offers clear benefit for children's learning and their own professional development. Newly appointed staff will be appointed on the basis that they can be required to work in either school in the Federation.

What are the next steps in this process?

The Governing Bodies of Melsonby Methodist (VC) Primary School and North and South Cowton Community Primary School will meet together on Wednesday, 27 June 2018 to consider the responses to this Consultation Proposal. Each Governing Body will then meet separately to decide whether to proceed. An announcement will be made on their decision after this date. If it is decided to proceed the Federation will start on 19th September 2018.

How can you find out more?

Open meetings will be held at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 09 May 2018 at North and South Cowton CP School and at 6.00pm on Thursday, 10 May 2018 at Melsonby Methodist Primary School.

How do you make your views known?

You can attend the meeting but we will also appreciate written responses. You can complete the attached response sheet and return it in an envelope to either:

Federation Proposal
Melsonby Methodist (VC) Primary School
West Road, Melsonby, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 5ND
or

Federation Proposal
North and South Cowton Community Primary School
North Cowton, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 0HF

The closing date and time for responses is 12.00 noon on Monday, 11 June 2018.

Katharine Millar
Chair of Governors
Melsonby Methodist Primary School

Terry Marshall
Chair of Governors
North and South Cowton CP School

CofG@melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk

cofg@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk

**Melsonby Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School
North and South Cowton Community Primary School**

Consultation on a Proposal for Federation – Response Form

Observations and/or suggestions on the proposal

You are not obliged to complete the personal information below. However, it will be helpful to the Governing Boards if you do so.

Name:	
Address:	
Post Code:	
School:	
Date:	

Your interest in: Melsonby Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School
North and South Cowton Community Primary School
[delete as appropriate]

Parent/carer of pupil: please tick ✓
Member of staff:
Parent of pre-school child:
Other: [Please state]

The closing date for this consultation is Monday 11 June 2018 at 12 noon

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, responses to the consultation may be accessed by members of the public.

Please detach the response form before returning to either of the two schools – address as indicated on page 2 of this document. Alternatively complete this form and email to:

CofG@melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk or cofg@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk