











17th February 2017

Dear Parents/Carers.

The government White Paper, *Educational Excellence Everywhere* (March 2016) indicated that all maintained schools will move to become an academy by 2020, and by the end of 2022 local authorities will no longer maintain schools. Whilst government policy has become less clear the expectation is that all schools should achieve academy status by 2020 and the role of local government in schools will be considerably diminished.

In the light of these changes, we are looking at how best to ensure that Temple Grafton C of E Primary School continues to thrive for many years to come whilst maintaining our distinctive family ethos. We believe that remaining as a local authority maintained school is not a long term sustainable option and so the Temple Grafton Governing Body has agreed to explore the path to becoming an Academy as part of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). We are working closely with the Diocese and schools in our local area to investigate how best to do this and we are considering carefully the options that are open to us.

This is a very important step for our school and the Governing Body is committed to working in the best interests of our school community. We will keep families informed as we move forward and a full consultation process with all stakeholders will take place once a way forward has been decided upon.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important message from your governing body.

Yours sincerely,

Cathy Barron

Chair of Temple Grafton School Governors

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^{**}If you, your child or any member of your family have difficulty in accessing the school and/or the school's facilities and services,