



Tuesday 22nd October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well as we head into the half term break. We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year and students have continually impressed us with their engagement and excellent attitudes in lessons and around school.

I'm writing to you today to share some exciting and important news regarding the future of the school.

Strategic Direction of the School

The school's governing body and I have made the decision that we would like to join a trust. We have made this decision following a thorough review of the current situation of the school and a lengthy vetting process, that involved meeting representatives from a number of trusts that operate locally. During the process, we explored which would be the best fit for our school and which the school and our students would most benefit from joining.

The trust that we have decided we would like to join is called United Learning. They are a trust that includes schools across the country, but they operate a local-cluster model, meaning that we would benefit from the thinking of a national organisation but be able to collaborate with local schools.

Governors were incredibly impressed by their track record of support and improvement for a range of schools, locally and nationally. They are able to offer a wealth of support in many key areas that would tangibly benefit our staff and students. We are very excited about the future of the school and the opportunities that would come from joining such an established and forward-thinking organisation. One other particularly important reason that governors and I chose United Learning was that we would be able to keep the identity and individuality of Sale High School, whilst being part of a larger group.

You may also be aware, that it is still the Department for Education's expectation that all secondary schools look to academise and join trusts, so this is a decision that we would have had to make at some point in the future.

As part of the process when looking to join a trust, there is an opportunity for parents to come and hear from representatives of the trust, alongside members of our governing body. We have arranged for this to take place on Monday 4th November, in the evening. To enable us to gauge how many parents would be interested in joining and whether we will need to run more than one session, please could you click the link and complete the indication of interest form - <https://forms.office.com/e/5KJiL23eHy>. When we have ascertained interest, we will confirm timings.

Along with this letter, you will find a letter from United Learning and a Frequently Asked Questions document that has been prepared in collaboration with the trust, which will likely answer many of the questions you have.

We're very excited about the future of our fantastic school.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Rogers
Headteacher