



16 November 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Consultation about whether to convert to an Academy**

The governors of Tarporley High School feel that now is the right time to consider fully the option as to whether the school should become an academy or stay as it is. As you may be aware, a number of other schools in the locality have made a decision on what they are going to do; so far Tarporley High School has not commented either way.

There has been a lot of media opinion about academies but it is important to recognise that what is good for one school is not necessarily the same for another and we all need to consider what is best for the students, the parents, staff of our school and its long term future.

You can be assured that no decision has already been taken as we recognise that whatever route we take, it has to be in the best interests of our school and students. Such a decision cannot be made without the proper understanding of the benefits and disadvantages of either option both short and long term.

To carry out a proper evaluation and assessment, will require a lot of listening and take time. We will need to involve many different groups and put together a great deal of information. This could not, and should not be done behind closed doors. We have decided to make everyone aware of what is going to be considered right at the outset, by entering into a formal consultation process as to whether Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College should convert to an academy.

We have made available an email address:

[academyconsultation@tarporley-high.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:academyconsultation@tarporley-high.cheshire.sch.uk)

where you can leave a comment, opinion or raise specific concerns. We will communicate with all parents during the consultation period to keep you informed and listen to your views, and there will be open meetings that you can attend. We welcome all, and any, opinions and we will take these into account in the final evaluation.

The Formal consultation period will run from 16 November 2011 until 29 February 2012. Once the final evaluation has been completed, we will hold an extraordinary meeting of the Governing Body to consider the results of our consultation and decide whether Tarporley should convert to an academy or remain as a Foundation School.

Thank you for your understanding and your support.

Yours sincerely



**TOM CROTTY**  
Chair of the Governing Body



**SARAH LEE**  
Headteacher