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22nd February 2017

Dear Parents/Carers, School staff and members of our local community,

The Northfleet Schools Co-operative Learning Trust

The Governing Body of Shears Green Junior School is considering becoming a foundation school and formalising existing relationships with local schools. This will involve joining the Northfleet Schools Co-operative Learning Trust with 1st June 2017 as the proposed implementation date.

This does not mean our school is becoming an academy, through this plan we will remain part of the local authority, instead this letter describes our intention to work in a formal collaboration with other local schools. It is important to be aware that the governing body will continue to run the school, handle the school budget and be responsible for the performance of the school. There is no intention to change staffing arrangements.

The schools who are considering working in partnership are Cecil Road Primary School and Nursery School, Lawn Primary School, Northfleet School for Girls, Northfleet Technology College, Painters Ash Primary School, Shears Green Infant School and Shears Green Junior School. Northfleet Nursery are proposing to join the Trust as a partner, as current legislation does not allow nurseries to have foundation status.

We would like develop this Trust;

- to continue to raise expectations and standards in our schools and improve the future prospects for all of our learners
- to build strong partnerships to support the community of Northfleet
- to work together to build on our local common values and the national co-operative schools vision and aims

The Trust will seek to build on existing relationships to;

- Further improve the quality of learning and teaching
- Further Improve the wellbeing of our young people
- Build on the advantages of sharing resources and expertise
- Improve value for money in a time of real terms reduction in funding
- Support and develop current and future leaders

Further information on Co-Operative Foundation Trust schools can be found at <http://co-operativeschools.coop/about/co-operative-trust-schools/>.

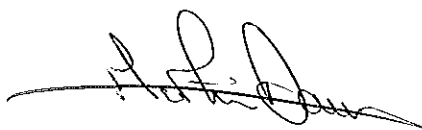
Details of the proposals are provided in the full **proposal information pack** which can be downloaded from the website: www.ShearsGreenJuniorSchool.co.uk. We hope you will join in the discussion and come to one of the meetings. **Responses can also be made by email to: northfleet@csnetwork.coop**

If you would like to talk to us about this exciting change there will be consultation meeting held at our school on Friday 10th March at 09.15am and another meeting which is open to the public at Northfleet School for Girls on 8th March at 6.00pm.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. J. Pike
Head teacher



Mr. M. Day
Chair of Governors