



RYE COLLEGE : T. 01797 222 545
THE GROVE : E. OFFICE@RYECOLLEGE.E-SUSSEX.SCH.UK
RYE : WWW.RYECOLLEGE.CO.UK
EAST SUSSEX : PRINCIPAL ANN COCKERHAM
TN31 7NQ

24th January 2012

Dear staff member

Academy Conversion Consultation

As I explained at our staff meeting on Monday 23rd January 2012, at our full Governing Body meeting on Thursday 19th January 2012, the Governors of Rye College took the decision to initiate the consultation process regarding conversion to Academy status. This process will start on Tuesday 24th January 2012.

We wish to seek views of all our staff to inform our final decision. To support staff in developing their knowledge and understanding of what is involved in becoming an Academy, we have prepared an information document which is available from the school website. We will be discussing Academy status with trade unions, parents, students and members of the wider community during the consultation process; the deadline for feedback on Academy conversion is **February 28th 2012 at 12 noon.**

A briefing session for staff and trade union representatives has been arranged on **6th February 2012 at 3.45pm** so that you can raise any questions direct with governors and the Principal.

Alternatively, you can submit comments by email to **academyconsultation@ryecollege.e-sussex.sch.uk** or you can send letters marked 'Private and Confidential Academy Consultation' to the address above.

To further support your participation in the consultation, we would like to establish an Academy Conversion Staff Group with four staff representatives, preferably two teaching and two support staff, plus the current trade union representatives within the school. This group can provide a channel for information sharing, feedback and discussing issues arising from the Academy consultation and, if appropriate, the TUPE consultation. The first meeting will be held during the week **30th January** and there could be two further meetings.

In the first instance staff should notify Bernard Thomson of their interest in being a staff representative before **1pm on 25th January 2012.** In the event of more than two teaching or support staff representatives expressing an interest, an election will be held.

Yours sincerely

Ian Ross
Chair of Governors

Ann Cockerham
Principal