



APLEY WOOD
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Academy Conversion Section 5 Consultation

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Following approval of the school's recent application to become an Academy, and receiving an Academy Order from the DfE, the Local Governing Body of Apley Wood are carrying out a consultation with all stakeholders of the local community. The aim of the consultation is to approach stakeholders asking them whether they are happy for the school to become an Academy and join REAch2 Academy Trust in entering into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State to establish a new primary academy. This consultation is in accordance with Section 5 of the Academies Act (2010).

The consultation will commence on Monday 15th January 2024 at 9:00am, and close on Thursday 29th February 2024 at 5:00pm.

Background

Back in July and September 2023 we informed parents that Apley Wood were considering becoming an Academy and had applied for an Academy Order to the Department for Education (DfE). Because of the strengths of Apley Wood this has been a voluntary process which Governors and Senior Leaders have chosen to undertake in order to provide more opportunities to develop the school further strengthen our capacity.

After careful consideration we have taken the decision to join REAch2 Academy Trust. Our decision was based on our desire to join a Trust which was exclusively primary only, and who had a similar vision and ethos to our own. Staff of Apley Wood have been invited to visit other REAch2 Academies in the local area and also attend some of their Trust events. All staff have come back feeling really positive about their experiences and assured that the right decision has been made.

We were therefore delighted to receive confirmation from the DfE of their approval for Apley Wood to become an Academy and join REAch2. As part of the conversion process, there is a requirement for a school to consult with parents. We are now holding a stakeholder consultation in order to hear the views of our parents.

The New Primary Academy:

Name:	Apley Wood Primary Academy
Location:	Pool Farm Avenue, Apley, Telford, TF1 6FQ
Planned Opening Date:	1 April 2024
Age Range:	4-11
Type of School:	Academy (<i>further information is available here</i>).

About REAch2

Founded in 2012, REAch2 Academy Trust is the largest primary-only academy trust in the country. We currently support 60 primary academies across England, all of whom share our mission to provide the best possible education for our young people. At the heart of this mission is the unshakeable belief that every child deserves a rich, rewarding, education, regardless of their background or geographical location. Our schools offer exceptional teaching from staff who make sure children get the best possible experience. Whether inside the classroom or extra-curricular activities, we offer pupils a comprehensive schooling which helps to shape the people they will become.

Cornerstones and Touchstones

The REAch2 Academy Trust forms the strong, responsible, foundation from which every school develops, grows, and flourishes. It is the cornerstone that ensures all its schools deliver the best possible learning experience based on quality, excellence and high standards. Our staff are committed to a maintaining a culture inspired by our Touchstones: seven principles which inspire our provision and ensure REAch2 academies are unique. Just as 500 years ago touchstones were used to test the quality of the gold they marked, so too our Touchstones find what is precious and set these things apart. They embody the values and ethos of the Trust and act as our guiding purpose for every decision taken.

Our Touchstones

- Integrity**
Being courageously true to our purpose
- Leadership**
Finding the leader in all of us
- Responsibility**
Unwavering commitment to seeing things through
- Learning**
Creating exceptional opportunities for learning
- Inclusion**
Realising the greatness in our difference
- Enjoyment**
Loving what we do
- Inspiration**
Feeling the power of the possible

Our promise to all children is that they will receive a high-quality education at a REAch2 academy. Children will flourish in their learning here and use this as the bedrock of their future education.

How we work

Our staff are passionate about driving educational improvement through the principle of school supporting school.

We believe transparency is vital to this aim and are always willing to share our resources, our successes, and our failures, both within the REAch2 family and across the education sector. The goal is to ensure every child can receive an excellent education, regardless of their background.

We are committed to leading by example and holding up our academies as shining models of what can be achieved. Every one of our staff lives by our commitment to our touchstone values of integrity, responsibility, and inclusion. We know that we are the role models for our pupils and that the behaviours we model are those they will learn and share.

REAch2 proactively engages with parents, carers, and the wider academy community to ensure they are aware of the targets we set for ourselves, and to seek constructive guidance on where we can improve. Our academy leaders will continually seek ways to improve and enhance the education on offer, and act as a network for support for each other in this calling.

Our strategic goals

In short, we want every REAch2 school to be a 'great' school. Our 4 strategic goals contain the assurances that each and every child will be given the best possible experience at school – ready for the next stage of their education. This is the time for ambitious and considered strategic goals which stretch us, demand that we move the needle and inspire each and every adult and child.

- **Great Schools:** We will make sure that every one of our schools sets the highest aspirations for children and makes an exceptional contribution to their communities.
- **Social Justice:** We will be relentless in breaking down the barriers which prevent primary children from fulfilling their potential and so enable them to face life's challenges with confidence.
- **Sustainability:** We will transform our approach to sustainability across REAch2 by inspiring our children to become environmental ambassadors, unlocking their potential to make positive change.
- **Digital Transformation:** We will construct a digital infrastructure fit for the 21st Century, leveraging technology to unlock teaching and learning.

To find out more about strategy please visit our website: <https://www.reach2.org/strategy/>

How can I find out more?

If you would like to find out more about REAch2 you can visit our website at www.reach2.org or you watch our story here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEXlv7dptCg>

We are holding a parent and stakeholder consultation event in January: inviting everyone to meet members of REAch2 and find out more about the conversion and ask any questions.

DATE	TIME	VENUE
29 th January 2024	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Apley Wood Primary School, Pool Farm Avenue, Apley, Telford, TF1 6FQ

How can I respond to this consultation?

If you have any questions or comments, please put these in writing by post or email to the following address.

Apley Wood Primary School,
Pool Farm Avenue,
Apley,
Telford, TF1 6FQ

Email: A2190@taw.org.uk

All correspondence should be marked "Apley Wood: Academy Conversion Section 5 Consultation".

Frequently asked questions?

An FAQs document will accompany this consultation which will hopefully help to answer some of questions stakeholders may have.