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Dear Parent/Carer

## **POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF SOUTH BANK ACADEMY TRUST**

I recently wrote to let you know that the current upheavals in national education policy were forcing many schools in York to consider their future arrangements. I also said I would keep you informed as things developed.

We have now received a formal approach from the governors of Acomb Primary School, expressing their interest in joining the South Bank Multi Academy Trust (MAT). Our Trustees have met with their governors and on the basis of what we have learned so far, the Board has decided to take this proposal forwards.

As a good school in our local area, with an ethos that emphasises high standards and putting people first, we believe Acomb could be a strong fit with our existing schools. Acomb's governors will now begin a consultation with their stakeholders, after which both we and they will conduct detailed due diligence to be sure that the expansion would be in the best interests of all our schools. Should all these processes prove positive, then Acomb's governors and the MAT Board would take final votes on whether to proceed later in the year.

I appreciate that this significant development has come very early in the life of the MAT: that is a function of the educational climate we find ourselves in. I'd like to be clear that nothing is decided yet and that our final decision will take into account the needs of all our schools, and the viability of any expansion, as well as our desire to be a constructive partner for local schools.

Things keep changing and I will keep you informed.

Yours faithfully



**Edwin Thomas**  
Chair of Trustees



**Nicki Mitchell**  
Vice Chair of Trustees