



# Gargrave CE (VC) Primary School

9<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents,

## **CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL OF GARGRAVE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO JOIN A MULTI ACADEMY TRUST AND FOR THE SCHOOL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS**

For some time, the Governing Body of Gargrave CE Primary School has been considering carefully the school's future in a fast-changing and increasingly challenging educational landscape. Governors have spent time researching and undertaking due diligence and now believe that the best plan moving forward is for Gargrave CE Primary School to become an academy and join Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust.

Our application for academy status will be reviewed by a DfE Advisory Board and we see no reason why it will not be approved. As part of the process, we have a duty to consult with key stakeholders and the information enclosed within this letter is the beginning of that process.

We will be hosting meetings and preparing documents which will help you to understand our proposals, what it means for the school and the staff and children, answer any questions you may have and most importantly enables you to share your thoughts and ideas.

### **What is the proposal?**

Our school would like to join an existing Multi Academy Trust – Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust. This is a small Multi Academy Trust based Harrogate, Ripon and Craven areas consisting of nine other

Good and Outstanding schools. The existing academies in the trust to date are:

- All Saints C of E Primary School
- Hampsthwaite C of E Primary School
- North Rigton C of E Primary School
- Richard Taylor C of E Primary School
- Skipton Parish C of E Primary School
- St. Aidan's C of E High School
- St. Peter's C of E Primary School
- Oatlands Infant School
- Pannal Primary School.

To find out more about Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust you can log on to their website [Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust](#) or join us at our meeting highlighted below.

### **Why have Governors decided to join Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust?**

Gargrave CE Primary School conducted research and met with other multi academy trust partners in the area. Following this work and meetings, Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust was the preferred partner. The values of the MAT are closely aligned with Gargrave CE Primary School in particular their ethos around the inclusion of all pupils and enabling us to retain our individual school identity. Working with the Trust and its schools is something that Governors feel would continue to strengthen

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the school providing new and further opportunities to pupils and staff to build a partnership for the future with schools who share our ethos, vision and values.

### **Consultation**

Governors are now entering the consultation phase and would like to consult with parents, carers, staff, pupils and the wider community on the proposal for Gargrave CE Primary School to convert to academy status and join Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust.

The consultation period will run from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June to Midday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Following consultation, the Governing Body will consider a report on the findings of the consultation at a meeting in July 2025 and this will be made available online to all stakeholders via our school website.

**We invite parents to attend a consultation meeting on**  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025, at 5.30pm, Gargrave CE Primary School

The meeting will be an opportunity to ask questions about academy status and how this will affect the school. Representatives from Governors, school leadership and Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust will be available to talk to you and you will also be able to register your comments, queries and any thoughts on opportunities or concerns.

We have also prepared and enclosed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document to help answer some of the questions we anticipate you may have.

You can have your say in the following ways:

- By completing our online survey on our school website (<http://gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk/academy-consultation/>)
- By asking questions at any of our meetings
- By emailing [admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk)

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Peel Mrs Claire Davey  
**Headteacher Chair of Governors**

Enclosed:

- Academy consultation FAQs

I/we will be attending the information session on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 5.30pm

Child's name ..... Class .....

Parent/carers .....