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29th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware, the Governing Boards of Bradfield Dungworth Primary School, Loxley Primary School, Nook Lane Junior School, Oughtibridge Primary School, Stannington Infant School and Wharnccliffe Side Primary School took the decision to apply to form a Multi-Academy Trust and applied to the Department for Education late last year. We are pleased to let you know that the Regional Schools Commissioner has approved our proposal and granted Academy Orders to all six schools. We will now begin the legal process of conversion and work towards forming a new Academy Trust called 'Peak Edge'.

Governors believe that this change will enable us to continue to improve the opportunities we provide for our children and support the schools in their future development. When the schools become academies, they will remain community focussed schools, and their character will be protected within the funding agreement for each school between Peak Edge and the Secretary of State. We see this as the next step in our partnership development which will facilitate even greater collaboration, not a radical change to our children's education.

Academy status will change some things behind the scenes but otherwise you and your children will see very little difference when we make this change. We will continue to work closely with other local primary and secondary schools. The name of our school will not change, the uniform will not change and we will not change term dates or our admissions policy.

We believe the decision we have made will not only secure the future for our school but allow it to perform even better as the advantages of close partnership with other local schools take effect. At a time of challenge and rapid change in education, working together with schools with shared aims and ideas offers immense benefits.

We are excited by the prospect of being in at the beginning of this new venture. While there will be challenges, we look forward to working in ever closer partnership across the local area, becoming one educational community in service to the community in this area of Sheffield.

There can be no greater responsibility than supporting our children as they undertake their journey of education and personal growth and development and we believe this change equips us to continue to develop high quality innovative provision. We thank you for your support as we step into a new and exciting future together.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher and Chair

