



July 2018

Message for parents/carers from Catherine Brooker, CEO, Areté Learning Trust

As you may well be aware, Northallerton School has been judged by Ofsted as requiring "Special Measures" to secure improvement. This means that it has to be sponsored by a Multi Academy Trust with a proven record of, and expertise in, school improvement.

Areté Learning Trust has been named by the DfE as the preferred sponsor for the school. I would emphasise that the school remains a maintained school until the trust has completed all due diligence work, the legal process of conversion to academy status is completed and negotiations with the local authority have led to a satisfactory conclusion. This will all take some time. Nevertheless, we shall obviously be working closely with the new Head and Deputy on school improvement and increasing collaboration with the other ALT schools during the period leading up to conversion.

After the difficulties the school has faced in recent times, I know that much has already been achieved by the interim leaders in stabilising the school and laying the foundations for further improvement. We shall continue to work with and support the school and develop the collaboration already established.

There is much school improvement work to be done and the trust's commitment to supporting schools in difficulty remains a key element of our ethos and moral purpose.

Kind regards

Catherine Brooker