



## The Federation of St Francis Special School Lincoln and Lincoln St Christopher's School

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Dear Parents / Carers,

8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

### Re: Academy Conversion

I am writing on behalf of the Federated Governing Body of St Francis and St Christopher's Schools to bring you up to date about the progress of converting to an Academy and joining the CIT Academy Trust.

At various stages along the conversion route Governors have met to ensure the process of due diligence on both sides is progressing well and working towards meeting needs and providing benefits to our two schools.

The Governors have reflected carefully and thoughtfully and an Extraordinary Full Governors meeting took place last week to consider the progress and various options.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Governors voted unanimously to halt the conversion process. The two schools will not move into the CIT Academy Trust. The Federation is growing in strength and has confidence in its own abilities. The two schools will remain with the Local Authority, continue to strive for all that is best for the young people with SEND in Lincoln and its locality and across the County of Lincolnshire and continue to work closely with all the SEND schools across the County.

The Federation of the two schools has grown stronger over the year with the relationship working well for both schools. St Christopher's self - evaluation is confidently 'good with some outstanding features' and a permanent Head Teacher is to be secured shortly.

Meanwhile, although the LA were unsuccessful in their bid to the DfE for a Free School for Lincoln, there remains a commitment from the Local Authority for a third SEND school for Lincoln and various options are being considered to bring this to fruition.

The Governors value your involvement throughout the process and hope you will agree with us that this is the best step for the schools at this time.

Yours sincerely,

*Ann Hoffmann*

Ann Hoffmann  
Acting Executive Head Teacher