



# Corbridge Middle School

*Specialist Arts College*

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Headteacher: J Kennedy Deputy Head: Mr D Johnston

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Dear Parent/ carer,

I have attached some important information regarding Hadrian Learning Trust; Queen Elizabeth High School and Hexham Middle School. They are proposing to bring together Queen Elizabeth High School and Hexham Middle School to create a single 11-18 Secondary school.

In response to Hadrian Learning Trust's consultation to move to a two tier system the other schools within the Hexham Partnership plan to work closely together to ensure that any future change for the pupils in our schools has a positive educational impact. If necessary, advice from appropriate professionals will be sought; please be assured that ensuring the best outcomes for all stakeholders in our Hexham Partnership of schools is paramount.

Corbridge Middle School is a successful school and we pride ourselves on the highly effective relationships we have developed with our partnership schools: we are fully committed to maintaining these. As a rural middle school, with small rural feeder first schools, we prefer the 3-tier model as we can see first-hand that this provides the best educational journey, to maximise our pupil's achievements and support the communities that live in these areas. As a middle school we are able to provide specialist teachers and facilities to support the children's learning in greater depth than in the primary sector. We are proud of the fact that a large proportion of our pupils - over a third - choose to join us from outside of our catchment area. The numbers of pupils in the school has increased by nearly 20% in the last 3 years: we believe this is due to the increasing recognition of the overall educational experience provided by us for our middle school aged pupils. We are determined to continue to offer all parents the choice of a great first and middle school education and we also remain fully committed to ensuring the best educational offer is provided for the whole of our Hexham Partnership.

For some time now our Headteacher and governors have been actively researching and discussing, with many different stakeholders, how changes to educational structures can improve the educational outcomes for our children. We continue to do this to ensure we are informed and prepared to make the right choices for our children. We are in the process of consulting with our parents, staff and local community on becoming part of the Tynedale Community Learning Trust who have a similar ethos to ourselves, although no decisions have been made. We remain committed to the Hexham Partnership and continue to engage with Hadrian Learning Trust, the Local Authority, the Diocese and other schools, as well as other potential Multi Academy Trusts within our vicinity, to



ensure that we do our absolute best to offer the best educational outcomes for our children.

It will not surprise you that we do not agree with the ways in which Hadrian Learning Trust are proposing to achieve their three key objectives. We want to clearly understand the views of everyone so that our response takes into account our most important stakeholders – our children, our staff and our parents. Please try and come along to one of the drop-in sessions listed below to find out more about what this change in age range may mean for our students, our school and the other schools in the Hexham Partnership:

- Wednesday June 28<sup>th</sup> 14:00 – 15:00
- Thursday June 29<sup>th</sup> 16:00 – 17:00
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 9:00 – 10:00
- Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 19:30 – 20:30
- Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> 18:30 – 19:30
- Friday July 7<sup>th</sup> 09:15 – 10:15

Please complete the reply slip below to indicate your attendance so that we can provide refreshments on arrival.

At Corbridge Middle School we are very clear about our ethos: that we value *all* members of our school community and we *all* strive to be:

- Successful learners, who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Confident individuals, who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Responsible citizens, who make a positive contribution to society

Along with our ethos, our values of respect, care, responsibility and resilience will continue to underpin all that we do. The Headteacher, staff and governors remain relentless in striving to ensure that every child receives an outstanding, personalised educational experience.

Jane Kennedy  
Headteacher

Corbridge Middle School – Drop-in about proposed changes to Hadrian Learning Trust

Child..... Class.....

I can attend the drop-in session on .....

Parent name.....

Signed.....

