

1. **Statutory Proposal Violet Lane Foundation to acquire a Foundation (Trust)**

This Proposal is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 that Violet Lane School Governing Body intends to make a prescribed alteration to Violet Lane Foundation School, Violet Way, Stapenhill, Burton upon Trent, Staffs, DE15 9ES

The proposed alteration is for Violet Lane Foundation School to acquire a Trust. Proposed alterations meet the requirements as set out under Section 23a of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (SSFA 1998) [Education (Requirements as to Foundations) (England) Regulations (2007)].

The name of the school is Violet Lane Trust School.

The trust to be acquired by the Governing Body is Violet Lane Trust. Membership of Violet Lane School Trust includes:

Violet Lane School
The Stephanie Parrott School of Dance

The principle aim of the Trust will be the advancement of education.

- Develop a focus on speaking and listening and children's first hand experiences. Impact on standards in writing and ICT are also anticipated.
- Develop creative experiences both within school and its community.
- Have Incorporated Charitable status enabling fund raising and additional support to be considerably enhanced.

It will achieve this by developing links with the Dance School.

The Trust will seek to create opportunities which will enable initiatives to be undertaken to support the development of children within current community provision and where required help to identify additional provision and facilitate the development of such provision. The Dance School will offer tuition over and above the school day and be accessible to all.

Our expectations are that the Trust will enhance the experiences for children, young people and their families in the area.

The Governing Body of Violet Lane Foundation School will continue to have day to day control of the school's premises. The school's land and buildings will transfer to Violet Lane School Trust to be held in Trust for the duration of its relationship with the school.

Violet Lane Foundation School will continue to teach the national curriculum and will be inspected by Ofsted.

The Trust will appoint a minority of up to three governors to the Governing Body of the school which will be constituted as follows:

Parent Governors	5
Local Authority Governors	2
Staff Governors	2 (One of which will be the Headteacher)
Community Governors	2
Trust Governors	3

The move to Trust School Status will not change Violet Lane Foundation School's admission policy.

2. How the Trust will work

2.1 The Violet Lane School Trust will be a charitable, not for profit Trust, meeting the legal and other requirements as set out by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF). It will carry out its duties in relation to the school set out by DCSF, specifically by appointing a minority of the members of the Governing Body.

The principal objective of the Trust will be the advancement of education and improved opportunities for pupils.

- to advance and enhance opportunities without distinction of age, race, nationality, gender, secularity, disability or of political, religious and other opinions.
- to assist in the accessing of facilities for leisure time activity (dance, drama and ICT) at all times of the year, including before and after school, weekends and holidays, with the express aim of improving quality of life for children within the community.

2.2 The Trust will be legally established with the Charities Commission and registered as a company limited by guarantee with Companies House. The Charities Commission will regulate its activities (as with all charities).

The Trust will meet the requirements on Trusts [School Organisation (Requirements as to Foundations) (England) Regulations 2007]

2.3 Trustees will not be able to derive an income from the Trust, but the Trust may become an employer or commissioner as it seeks to deliver services. Any income generated by the Trust will only be used to support its charitable objectives.

2.4 The Trust will meet a minimum of three times a year. Further meetings of the Trust or Trustees could be arranged if needed, at the request of individual Trustees. The voting Trustees will be nominated by the Trust member organisations and their eligibility checked by the Governing Body to meet the requirements of DCSF regulations. This screening process will include a CRB check.

The Chair of the Trust will be elected from the Trustees. When elected the Chair will work in co-operation with the Chair of the Governing Body to ensure that the aims of the Trust and the school are mutually compatible. The Trust may employ staff to work on behalf of the Trust and take day to day control of Trust business.

2.5 Trust Membership

Violet Lane Foundation School (1 member)

Will Contribute:

A proven track record in innovation and facilities for extended services. Specialist experience

Ref StatutoryProposal2009.word.s.trust09
in working with Early Years children.

The Stephanie Parrott School of Dance (1 member)

Will Contribute:

Specialist knowledge, expertise and understanding of creative dance/drama in the Early Years.
Experience in providing extra curricular activities in the local community.

Community Representatives (1 member)

Will Contribute:

An independent view of the proposed programmes of work of the Trust. Support the development of community cohesion.

3. Trustees

3.1 The work of the Trust will be monitored by a Board of Trustees.

3.2 The Board of Trustees will have five members.

3.3 Trustees will be nominated by the Trust members (and may or may not be members of the Trust or Trust Governors on the Governing Body of the new Trust School.)

3.4 The nominated Trustees are:

Headteacher
Chair of Governors
The Stephanie Parrott School of Dance
A community member

4. What does becoming a Trust School mean for parents?

4.1 The school remains a maintained school funded through Staffordshire Authority on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families.

4.2 Admission policy for the school will not change.

4.3 The number of parent governors will not alter. The number and type of other governors appointed to the Governing Body will be as outlined in 1.12 of these proposals.

4.4 The opportunities for children attending this school will be improved, as a result of the knowledge and skills gained by expertise within the Trust.

Results of Consultation

The consultation took place between 8th June 2009 and 6th July 2009 in line with statutory requirements. A copy of the consultation document is attached.

The consultation document was posted to the following:

273 parents (of pupils at the school)

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102 parents of children at the on site nursery

Local Parish Council	Derbyshire Dragons	Community Church
Police	Edge Hill School	Paulet School
Robert Sutton School	Waterside School	Short Street School
PCT	Pupils School Wear	Bloomin Gardens
Staffs County Council	GMB	NUT
NAHT	ATL	DCSF.
14 School Governors		
52 Staff		

Staff at Violet Lane Foundation School were kept informed throughout the process via progress updates at staff meetings. Staff were reminded that if they had any concerns, they should raise them with Senior Management Team or take them to their professional associations.

No responses were received from staff.

One response was received from a parents. This was a request for further information. A detailed handout was sent from the information available to school.

The governor responses welcomed the opportunity and challenge that the establishment of a Trust would bring for the school and Trust working together in the future.

The Governing Body of Violet Lane Foundation School considered responses to the consultation and the decision to publish statutory proposals was taken on 28th September 2009

The Governing Body has followed and complied with all aspects of the applicable statutory guidance in relation to consultation over these proposals, and has consulted at all stages as and when appropriate.

How can I make a representation?

Copies of this proposal can be obtained from the School Office at Violet Lane Foundation School, Violet Way Stapenhill Burton upon Trent, Staffs DE15 9ES. This proposal can also found on school website: www.violetlaneinfants.com

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, i.e. by 11th November 2009 any person may make representations on the proposal and send them to the Governing Body, Violet Lane Foundation School, Violet Way, Stapenhill, Burton on Trent Staffs, DE15 9ES.

Following publication of the statutory notice and the four week period for making representation Governors will then consider, if appropriate, moving to implementation effective from 1st February 2010

Chair of Governors
Violet Lane Foundation School
15th October 2009