



Rt Hon Justine Greening MP
Secretary of State

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

1Excellence
c/o St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School
St Mark's Close
Bishopton Road West
Fairfield
Stockton-on-Tees
TS19 7HA

29 June 2017

FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR ST MARK'S ELM TREE CoFE VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am pleased to tell you that I have agreed to enter into a Funding Agreement with you to allow St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School to convert into an academy. My officials will forward a copy of the executed Funding Agreement to you.

Academies form an integral part of the Government's education policy to raise attainment for all children. I am delighted that St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School recognises the benefits academy status will bring.

The date of conversion, when the school will open as an academy, will be 1 July 2017. I am writing to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council to instruct it to cease to maintain the school from that date.

If you have notified the Department of any additional leases or subleases the academy trust wishes to grant on conversion, these will also require my consent (according to the terms of both the Funding Agreement and the relevant legislation), and we will soon write separately in relation to this.

Your academy will now have the opportunity to use the freedoms and flexibilities of academy status to share best practice and work with others to bring about sustained improvements to all schools in the area. I would like to thank you for your commitment and wish you every success in the future.

I attach a copy of my letter to the chair of governors of St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School and a copy of my letter to the local authority.

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The Chair of Governors
St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School
St Mark's Close
Bishopton Road West
Fairfield
Stockton-on-Tees
TS19 7HA

29 June 2017

FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR ST MARK'S ELM TREE CofE VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Further to your application and the Academy Order that was made previously, I am pleased to tell you that I have now agreed to enter into a Funding Agreement with 1Excellence to allow St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School to become an academy.

Academies form an integral part of the Government's education policy to raise attainment for all children. I am delighted that your school recognises the benefits academy status will bring.

The date of conversion, when the school will open as an academy, will be 1 July 2017. I am writing to the local authority to instruct it to cease to maintain the school from that date.

St Mark's Church of England Primary School will now have the opportunity to use the freedoms and flexibilities of academy status to share best practice and work with others to bring about sustained improvements to all schools in the area. I would like to thank you for your commitment to and assistance in the academy conversion process.

I attach a copy of my letter to the local authority and I am copying this letter to the academy trust. Please pass a copy of this letter to the head teacher.

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Mr Martin Gray
Director of Children's Services
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton-on-Tees
TS18 1LD

29 June 2017

FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR ST MARK'S ELM TREE CoFE VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am delighted to be able to inform you that I have agreed to enter into a Funding Agreement so that St Mark's Elm Tree CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School will convert into an academy.

The date of conversion (within the meaning of section 6(2) of the Academies Act 2010), and when the school will open as an academy, will be 1 July 2017, and you should cease to maintain the school on that date.

As you will be aware, academies form an integral part of the Government's education policy to raise attainment for all children and to bring about sustained improvements to all schools, and I would like to thank you for your assistance with the academy process.

If you have provided publicly funded land for the academy, please also accept this letter as providing any necessary consent(s) pursuant to para 4(2) of Schedule 1 to the Academies Act 2010 (as substituted by Schedule 14 to the Education Act 2011) and section 77 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 for the authority to dispose of land, to the academy trust, that it is agreed the authority holds for the purpose of this school.

I am copying this letter to the academy trust and the chair of governors.

RT HON JUSTINE GREENING MP