



Barnwood Park

Proposal that Barnwood Park becomes an academy and joins the Greenshaw Learning Trust

Governors and leaders have been considering the future of Barnwood Park and have concluded that it would be in the best interests of the students, parents, staff, and wider community for the school to become an academy and join a multi-academy trust. The Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT) can provide the support that the school needs and Barnwood Park would benefit greatly from the collaboration.

GLT has similar values to Barnwood Park. GLT understands the community that Barnwood Park serves and the strengths and needs of its students, and has the skills and experience that will help the school give them the best preparation for the future.

GLT is a successful multi-academy trust of primary and secondary schools and is well-established locally, being responsible for three secondary schools and six primary schools in Gloucester, as well as others across the South West and South East of England. In total the Trust is made up of thirty schools.

As part of the Greenshaw family of schools, Barnwood Park will benefit from and contribute to the close collaboration within a community of like-minded schools, whilst retaining its character and its place at the heart of the local community.

If the necessary formal arrangements are agreed between the school, the Greenshaw Learning Trust, the Department for Education, and Gloucestershire County Council, it is expected that Barnwood Park will become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust later this year.

Why do it?

Schools can tackle the challenges they face and better secure the support and services they require by working together and sharing expertise and resources within a structured group of schools – and becoming an academy and being part of a multi-academy trust provides the most effective structure for that.

GLT has a strong track record of school improvement and has the skills, experience and capacity to give Barnwood Park the support it requires to ensure it can provide the best education to all its students so they are fully equipped to fulfil their academic and personal potential.

As part of GLT, Barnwood Park will benefit from stronger school-to-school collaboration as part of a community of schools that work closely together and support each other. The school will be able to secure better value for money and free up resources to use for the school's own priorities.

Joining a family of schools that share a strong moral purpose and work closely together to support each other will protect the provision and ethos at Barnwood Park and improve opportunities for students and staff.

How will this affect Barnwood Park?

As part of GLT, Barnwood Park's ethos and place at the heart of its local community will not change; it will continue to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to give local students of all abilities the best education possible.

By becoming an academy, the school's admission arrangements will not change – the same students will come to the school as would have done otherwise. The school will continue to collaborate with other local schools, for example, to coordinate term dates, and with the local authority over provision for special educational needs and place planning.

The school will receive the same level of per-pupil funding as it would as a locally maintained school but will benefit from additional efficiencies and economies of scale available to the multi-academy trust. The land and buildings used by the school will continue to be used by the school and control of them will transfer to the Greenshaw Learning Trust on a long lease.

The Greenshaw Learning Trust will become the employer of the school's staff - staff would transfer to the Trust under TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment) regulations, retaining current pay and conditions. Teachers will remain in the Teachers' Pension Scheme and support staff will remain in the Local Government Pension Scheme as they are now; the employers' contributions will be maintained by the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

The Trust will offer greater development opportunities to staff and help Barnwood Park recruit and retain good staff.

About the Greenshaw Learning Trust

The Greenshaw Learning Trust is an established and successful multi-academy trust - a charitable company responsible for, and with the sole purpose of providing education through, a group of state-funded schools - which continue to follow the same regulations as other state schools and are funded on the same basis.

The Trust has seventeen primary schools and thirteen secondary schools in South London, Berkshire, Surrey, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire, Bristol and Plymouth; they are popular local schools and have shown significant improvement since they joined the Trust.

To find out more about the Greenshaw Learning Trust, please visit www.greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk

Information, views and comments

Barnwood Park and the Greenshaw Learning Trust would like to invite you to attend a meeting where you can hear more about this and ask any questions you may have.

Consultation meetings are being held on Tuesday 23rd April at the following times:

- 14:30 – 15:15 – Parents
- 15:30 – 16:30 – Staff and union representatives
- 16:45 – 17:30 - Parents

A meeting will also be held with students from the school council.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the information meetings. However, we also welcome questions in advance by:

- Completing the [online response form](#)
- Writing to: Barnwood Park, St. Lawrence Road, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3QU
- Email to: consultation@barnwood-park.gloucs.sch.uk

The consultation period will close on 3rd May.
