



DOWNE PRIMARY  
SCHOOL



EDGEBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL



POVEREST  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

AFACT

Cooperative Trust

Consultation

1. Consultation information
2. Co-operative principles & values
3. What is a Co-operative Learning Trust?
4. Why join a Co-operative Trust?
5. Questions and discussion



**CSNet | LASER**

Co-operative Schools Network

# Consultation: the big question

Should we and the other schools form a co-operative learning Trust,

to work together on school improvement work

as set out in the current proposals?

In this case, this is an existing partnership which is considering a new Trust called AFACT

- Information materials are widely available
  - On the website
  - In print on request
  - Here today
- How to respond to the consultation
  - By email
  - In writing
  - Using the response forms
- Timescales:
  - Consultation ends 11<sup>th</sup> July
  - Governors will meet to consider responses
  - Each school decides to proceed (or not)

## What is a Co-operative Foundation Trust?

- An education foundation which is...
  1. A local not-for-profit legal partnership
  2. Designed to support the work of the school
  3. Based on shared core values and principles
  4. Committed to involving everyone in our learning community
  5. Not an Academy Trust, which is run by the government

# All co-operatives share the same values

Co-operatives  
don't have  
shareholders

- they have  
members with  
a real say in  
how their own  
co-operative is  
working

1. A co-operative is a community organisation with common purpose
2. Co-operatives run shops, services, farms, building societies.....
3. Co-operative School Trusts are run by and for their community
4. They do not run the school, they support the work of the school
5. They are not run by The Co-operative!

# Co-operative principles

and

# Core values

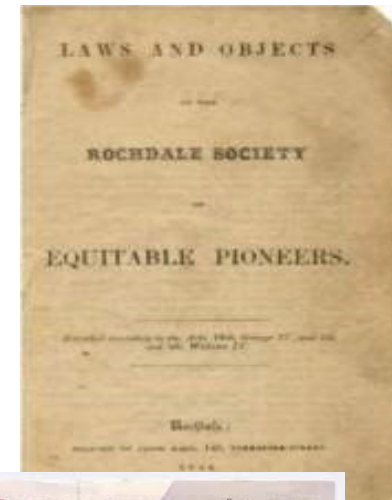
These ideas came out of the need for families to work together to get good value.

Nowadays, the values are very much like the values of your school.

The idea of working together can help the schools to get best value

And to share best practice.

- Self help
- Self responsibility
- Democracy
- Equality
- Equity
- Solidarity
  
- Honesty
- Openness
- Social responsibility
- Caring for others



## As a trust school, we would therefore:



- Give equal value to our members and all our young people. (Equality)
- Have a responsibility to help other schools. (Self help)
- Be accountable for our own actions. (Self responsibility)
- Abide by co-op principles and give voice to our learners. (Democracy)
- Make a positive contribution to the trust and local community. (Equity)
- Support and improve all our schools by working together. (Solidarity)

# Why do schools establish a Trust?

How do they work?

- A choice of character and legal form
  - ▣ “Maintained” schools, locally funded
  - ▣ Part of local provision
  - ▣ Ensuring local accountability
  
- The Foundation provides a legal entity
  - ▣ Holding major assets in trust
  - ▣ Sustaining values and ethos
  - ▣ To work on shared projects & problems

# What changes, what doesn't?

Governing Body  
similar make-up

Staffing conditions  
are unchanged

Stakeholders  
(members) become  
more involved in  
decision making  
about longer term  
ambitions and  
development work

- *Governors remain responsible for the school's performance, finances and oversight of strategic management*
- All TUC education unions support engagement with the co-operative education model
- The Forum and wider membership are involved in the Trust as a partnership which extends the work of the school



# Establishing a School Trust

3 months approx

- ▶ Identify the aims, potential benefits & activities of the Trust
- ▶ Identify trust partners
- ▶ GB agree model & agree to consult
- ▶ Publish a statutory notice
- ▶ Consult and consider responses
- ▶ Consider responses & agree (or not) to become a Foundation School and acquire a trust
- ▶ Trust is operational



## Our Schools: why we think this is the right choice now and why it will make a positive difference for children

Why we believe this is the right way forward for our school and for our learners, families and staff.

- It enables us to keep all that is best about our individual schools and retain our values, our individual and diverse characters and our staffing and provision arrangements.
- It ensures we remain accountable to our families and our learners.
- It enables us to be form a significant partnership over the next five years.

# Our Schools: why we think this is the right choice now and why it will make a positive difference for children

Why we believe this is the right way forward for our school and for our learners, families and staff.

- It will increase our capacity to achieve and sustain improved educational quality by working in partnership.
- It will help us to ensure that all our children and young people have their needs met.
- It will provide opportunities to learn from each other and for staff to continue their development
- It means we can create long term relationships with key educational partners.