



The Wolds and Vale Federation



Lutons and Sherburn will be joining the Ebor Academy Trust family of schools

The Department for Education has confirmed that Ebor Academy Trust will be running Lutons Community Primary School and Sherburn VC Church of England Primary School once the schools convert to academy status. Our target date for conversion is 1 April 2024.

Notes of questions asked at the parents' meetings held at both schools on 13 November 2023 have been combined and are detailed below, with answers. There is additional information for Sherburn, as it is a Church of England school, provided on that school's website from the Diocese.

If you have further questions or any concerns, please email lands@ebor.academy

This page will be updated as the conversion process gets underway. There is more information about Ebor Academy Trust at our website, www.ebor.academy

Lutons needs stability. We have had something like five headteachers in as many years. Can you give us that stability?

Mrs Mould has been headteacher "on loan" from Ebor to the local authority since November 2022. In that time Mrs Mould has overseen significant improvement in the schools, reflected in Ofsted monitoring visits at Sherburn. There are no plans for a further change of headteacher on conversion.

Will there be a governing body for each of the two schools, or will there be one governing body looking after both schools?

As there will be one headteacher covering both schools, it makes sense for there to be one local governing body and one chair of governors. This is to be decided, however, and as Sherburn is a church school agreement has to be reached with the diocese.

Is the local governing body only open to parents?

No, we are actively encouraging anyone in the locality who feels they have something to offer the school – parent or non-parent – to consider becoming a governor. There are more details on becoming a school governor, and what it involves, on the Ebor website.

Will we (Luttons) get our school dinners back?

School meals will continue to be provided after conversion the same way they are provided currently.

Will there be a PTA?

Ebor welcomes parent teacher organisations, sometimes called friends of the school, but it up to local interest among parents and the community to set up and run such a group.

Will the uniform change?

This is another decision for the school to make. If there is a change – and, together with the school logo or badge, this is still something still currently under review – there will be a transition period which will allow existing uniform to be used up by children (and their siblings). There will be no need to unnecessarily buy new uniform if current uniform is still fit for purpose.

There are no drama groups or shows at Luttons. Will performances be introduced?

It is an individual school decision to run shows and put on performances by children for parents. Community interest and offers of help may help persuade the headteacher and the staff team to consider such activity.

Will Luttons/Sherburn children at the end of Year 6 be in any way disadvantaged that they attend an academy but the secondary school they want to move to remains a Local Authority school?

Local authority maintained secondary schools will admit pupils based on each school's admissions oversubscription criteria. A child attending a primary academy is treated the same as a child from a maintained primary school when assessing who has priority for admissions at maintained secondary schools in North Yorkshire.

Will there be any noticeable change when the schools finally convert?

For children and teachers, there will be no noticeable change. All staff are being transferred across to Ebor as their new employer with their employment rights protected; there are no change of teachers expected and the length of the school day and school holidays will remain the same. Office staff will need to use systems already in place at the 23 other Ebor schools, so the office staff and the headteacher will see some adjustments. The names of the schools will be Luttons Community Primary Academy and Sherburn Church of England Primary Academy so stationery and school signs will change. There will also be new websites.

Will schools go out into the community more or stay in their classrooms?

It will be the school's responsibility to arrange school trips, as they do currently. As headteachers at all our schools meet regularly to share good practice, there will be more opportunities for heads to enrich education at individual schools.

Will more swimming lessons be introduced?

Following the Covid disruption, swimming lessons have been reintroduced.

When will be the next Ofsted inspection?

Once sponsored schools convert to academy status and join a multi-academy trust such as Ebor, they are given three years before school inspectors formally visit.