November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers and members of the local community

**PROPOSAL TO CONVERT TO ACADEMY STATUS AND TO ESTABLISH THE**

**EMBRACE MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

As many of you will know, in line with the Government’s education reforms, many schools in Leicestershire and across the country have been making the change to academy status.

The Government continues to develop the academies programme on the basis that academies will group together in multi-academy trusts. This letter seeks your views on a proposal that our school should convert to academy status and should join with others in the local area to establish Embrace Multi Academy Trust. More information about the proposed Trust is attached.

Schools across the district have a strong record of accomplishment in working together and building on collective strengths to ensure that all children have access to the very best possible education. Our Governors believe that becoming part of this multi academy trust will strengthen those partnerships and provide enhanced opportunities for schools to collaborate to develop truly great teaching and learning and to ensure best value for money. School leaders and governors are meeting together to help shape this new Trust. As the proposed group includes both Church of England and community schools, we are working closely with the Diocese of Leicester and will involve both the Local Authority and the Department for Education, as our proposals develop.

Parents and children are unlikely to notice any difference to their day-to-day experience of school life. For example, we will still be called Croft Church of England Primary School; the school uniform will not change; we will not change term dates nor the school’s admissions policies. All children and members of staff will continue to be part of the school as they are now. We trust that you will continue to give the Governors and the staff your support.

We are all very excited about the prospect of creating a multi academy trust that is locally based and run by leaders who have the best interests of local children and their families in mind.

More information about what this means for our school and for your children is attached to this letter and we will be hosting a meeting for parents/carers at our school on Monday 20 November 2017 at 6pm. If you would like to give your opinions on this proposal, please complete the online survey via this link [https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EmbraceMAT](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EmbraceMAT) or return the attached response form to the school in a sealed envelope marked ‘Embrace MAT Proposal’.

We will inform you of the outcome of the consultation in due course.

Yours sincerely  Mrs Colotto & Mr Watts