

Mugginton CofE Primary School

Academies

The words Academy and “Academisation” have been much in the media at the beginning 2016. In particular, reference was made during national budget announcements in March 2016 to “all schools becoming academies”.

What are academies?

This description of academies is from the BBC web site:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-13274090>

which also contains a brief outline of current plans for schools changing to academies. The link is a useful introduction to the subject.

- Academies are independent, state-funded schools, which receive their funding directly from central government, rather than through a local authority.
- The day-to-day running of the school is with the head teacher or principal, but they are overseen by individual charitable bodies called academy trusts and may be part of an academy chain.
- These trusts and chains provide advice, support, expertise and a strategic overview.
- They control their own admissions process and have more freedom than other schools to innovate.

Mugginton Primary School as an Academy?

The Government has indicated that it wants all schools to either become an academy or to have plans to become an academy or be part of an academy chain by 2020. However, there is currently NO requirement for any school to become an academy if they are judged “good” or better by Ofsted and the school is not a “coasting” school in 2017.

There is no doubt that the educational environment will change over the next few years but there seems to be no requirement, and no advantage, for Mugginton to make a decision within the next few years about its long-term future. Unless the situation changes dramatically, there does not appear to be any reason to make such a decision before the end of 2018.

During the next two years Governors will ensure that they and all school stakeholders become well-informed about all the options open to the school so that the best leadership model for the future of the school can be selected.