

31 January 2020

Dear Parents and Stakeholders,

We are writing to you with exciting news about the future.

As you will be aware, Portswood Primary School and Tanners Brook Primary are a part of the PPAT academy trust. Over the past year we have continued to explore the benefits and opportunities that are presented when trusts can join together for the benefits of the children. In considering this step, our priority has been focused on identifying a trust with the same educational vision as us, is financially stable and has strong leadership. This has led us to believing that the best option is to join the HISP Multi Academy Trust and we are in discussions with them.

The HISP trust has been set up to draw together successful schools in a strong trust. The trust would therefore comprise Tanners Brook Primary, Portswood Primary and Thornden Secondary school. These three schools represent the highest attaining primary school in Southampton, the most improved primary school in Southampton and the highest attaining secondary school in Hampshire. We believe joining HISP will give Portswood the best possible opportunity of continuing its excellence.

We are positive about initial explorations and will continue to invite feedback and discussion as well as undertaking a due diligence process ahead of Trustees within both trusts making final decisions. As part of this process, we will take any questions via [gemma.fuge@portswoodpri.org.uk](mailto:gemma.fuge@portswoodpri.org.uk) and update questions and responses on our trust website ([www.portswoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.portswoodtrust.org.uk)). We will also hold a parental/stakeholder discussion on **Thursday 6 February 2020** at 6.30pm.

A Frequently Asked Questions sheet will be available on the school website.

Yours sincerely

Pete Hutchings  
Chair of Trustees

Dr. Keith Watson  
Chief Executive Officer