

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School



The Academies Bill and Academy School Status

Context



- The Academies Bill was introduced into the House of Lords on Wednesday 26 May 2010
- It will probably receive Royal Assent in July 2010
- State schools rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted are automatically eligible to apply



“The Government is genuinely committed to giving schools greater freedoms. We trust teachers and headteachers to run their schools. We think headteachers know how to run their schools better than bureaucrats or politicians.

Many school leaders have already shown a keen interest in gaining academy freedoms. They want to use those powers to increase standards for all children and close the gap between the richest and the poorest.”

Michael Gove (26th May 2010)

Context



- The Secretary of State will approve all applications from ‘outstanding’ schools immediately ‘unless there is good reason not to’
- ‘Outstanding’ schools could open as academy schools in September 2010

What it could mean for Clitheroe Royal Grammar School



- Increase in direct funding
- New development opportunities
- Greater autonomy with our curriculum
- Reduction in bureaucracy

Funding / Development Opportunities



- The ability to carry forward money for future developments eg Sports Hall (currently we are restricted from doing this)
- The possibility of attracting sponsorship for the school (although this is not a requirement)

Curriculum



- An academy school will have considerable freedom to set its own curriculum within the scope of a ‘balanced and broadly-based curriculum’

Curriculum



- There will be no requirement to follow the National Curriculum. However, we will not make changes that will not benefit your sons / daughters
- We would have more scope to personalise the curriculum for each student

Staffing



- We will still be able to employ all our excellent and dedicated staff
- Staff would be employed with the same employment terms and conditions

As an Academy School



- We would remain a free grammar school
- We would continue to have a selective intake
- We would keep the school name and remain 'Clitheroe Royal Grammar School'

We would be able to

- Continue to set our own admissions criteria
- Determine our own pupil admission number
- Employ our own staff
- Remain a specialist school
- Transfer our current Governing Body



Our commitment in becoming an academy school



- To continue to provide a ‘balanced and broadly-based curriculum’
- To continue to work with other schools and the wider community

Consultation



- We have currently registered our initial interest with the DfE
- This does not constitute any commitment
- Consultation is not compulsory but we feel that it is essential

We will consult with

- Staff
- Students
- Parents / Carers



Governors



- The Chair's Committee of the Governing Body were in full agreement that we should register our initial interest with the DfE
- The full Governing Body will be discussing this matter on 22nd June

Your views



- Please forward any written feedback to feedback@crgs.org.uk
- If you would like further information or wish to discuss the issues with the Governors please attend the meeting on Tuesday 22nd, June (York Street site at 6.30 pm)

Further Information



- <http://www.education.gov.uk/academies>
- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/10161371.stm>