

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Dear Parent Guardian

### **St Merryn School Consultation on Academy Status**

The new Government have invited 'Outstanding' schools to apply for Academy Status. Academies are publicly funded independent schools which can benefit from freedoms to innovate and raise standards; specifically they have additional financial freedom and full control of their budgets.

As a School, we already manage the majority of our own services very successfully and have the capacity, capability and experience to encompass all that Academy Status can offer us. Education is changing rapidly and we believe that this additional freedom open to us as an Academy will enable us to manage these changes much more effectively.

We believe that there would be significant benefits for our pupils and staff in being in the early phase of this new initiative:

- Additional funding could be allocated to the projects chosen by us and be of direct benefit to pupils here
- We would further develop our expertise in financial, personal and entrepreneurial management and leadership
- This will give us the capacity to offer extended opportunities to our pupils and pupils within our networks
- Many new opportunities will be open to us as the current Government roll out their new policies and initiatives

The Governors met in March to discuss the Government initiative to become an Academy, and subsequently passed a resolution to convert.

Formal consultations have now been planned and this letter forms part of that process. I write to invite you to a consultation session in the hall on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm where parents and guardians can discuss and ask questions on Academy proposal, following a short presentation by the Headteacher. Attendance is optional but if you are unable to make the meeting and wish to ask any questions please put them in writing and address them to myself.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Cudmore  
Headteacher