

Thursday, 14th of May 2026

Dear parents and carers,

I wanted to write personally following the questions and concerns that have been raised during the ongoing consultation on Marling School becoming part of Lift Schools.

We understand that this conversation is about far more than organisational structures or formal changes. Marling School has a proud history and a strong identity built over generations. Families, alumni, staff and students rightly feel a deep connection to the school and to everything it represents. That matters greatly.

At Lift, we believe that strong schools are rooted in their communities and shaped by their own character, traditions and history. Across our network, we do not seek to create identical schools. We value what makes each school distinctive and recognise that preserving a strong sense of identity is an important part of sustaining pride, belonging and ambition.

Throughout the consultation, we will continue listening carefully to the feedback we receive and reflecting thoughtfully on how the school's heritage and character continue to be recognised and celebrated as part of its future.

I also wanted to provide some clarity on a number of points, as I hope this will offer some reassurance to the Marling community.

Whilst the school's formal legal name would become Lift Marling School, in practice the school would continue to be known simply as Marling School. Across our network of 59 schools, the Lift prefix is not used in the day-to-day life of our schools by students, staff or families, and Marling School would continue to be recognised by the name it has proudly carried for generations.

I can also confirm that there would be no changes to the school logo, signage, uniform or wider visual identity.

As with any organisation, there are some practical areas where consistency across the trust is necessary. For example, school email addresses and website domains use the Lift naming convention, meaning Marling School email addresses would become name.name@liftmarlingschool.org and the website address would become www.liftmarlingschool.org. These are operational arrangements that help us function effectively as a single organisation and support shared systems across the trust.

Just as Marling School rightly takes pride in its identity and traditions, we are also proud of the communities that make up Lift. Our schools retain their individuality while benefiting from the strength and support of a wider network working together to improve opportunities and outcomes for children and young people.

We believe Marling School can continue to build on its proud history while also benefiting from the opportunities that being part of Lift can bring.

Improvements to teaching and learning are already underway, and we look forward to building on that progress through the wider support a trust of our scale can provide. This includes curriculum expertise, opportunities linked to university pathways and work experience, alongside wider support in areas such as estates, IT, digital transformation, fundraising and marketing.

As Chris and Duncan referenced in their earlier letter, there will continue to be opportunities to ask questions and engage further as part of the consultation process. I will personally attend the sessions next Tuesday and very much hope many of you will attend one of the sessions and share your views.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Boomer-Clark

Chief Executive

Lift Schools

