Federation - Frequently Asked Questions for Parents/Carers

What is a federation?

A federation is a formal agreement where two or more schools come together under a single governing body. Each school retains its own identity, but they work closely together to improve educational outcomes and share resources more effectively.

Why are the schools proposing to federate?

Barmby Moor CE Primary School and Garton on the Wolds CE Primary School have successfully collaborated since 2012, sharing a Headteacher and working closely together. Federation is the next logical step, providing a stable leadership structure, strengthening governance and ensuring long-term benefits for pupils, staff, and the wider community. This proposal formalises the existing, successful collaboration between the two schools.

How will federation benefit my child?

Federation allows the schools to:

- Maintain high standards of education by sharing best practices.
- Access a wider pool of staff expertise and resources.
- Offer broader learning opportunities and enrichment activities.
- Strengthen leadership and governance to ensure continued school improvement.

Will the schools lose their individual identities?

No. Both schools will keep their names, uniforms and traditions. They will continue to serve their local communities while benefiting from closer collaboration.

Will there be any changes to the school day or curriculum?

No immediate changes are planned. Each school will continue to follow the national curriculum while exploring opportunities to enhance learning experiences through shared resources and staff expertise.

Will my child be moved from school to school?
No, each child will be educated in their own school but there may be times over the year when we will come together to share visitors and special days.

How will governance change?

A single federated governing body will replace the separate governing bodies of both schools. This will provide unified leadership, strategic oversight, and ensure consistent policies and priorities across both schools.

Will the schools continue to have a shared Headteacher?

Yes. The current arrangement of having a shared Headteacher will continue under federation, ensuring stability and continuity in leadership.

Will staff be affected by the federation?

Staff will remain employed at their respective schools, but there may be more opportunities for professional development and collaboration. There will be no job losses as a direct result of federation.

Will admissions policies change?

Each school will retain its own admissions policy and the current catchment areas will remain the same. The admissions authority for Garton on the Wolds CE Primary School will remain the East Riding of Yorkshire Local Authority and the admissions authority for Barmby Moor CE Primary School will be the newly established Federated Governing Body.

Where will my child go to secondary school?
Woldgate School will remain the catchment school for Barmby Moor and Driffield Secondary School will remain the catchment school for Garton on the Wolds. It is however still your parental choice which secondary school your child attends and this will continue to be applied for through the local authority.

Will parents have to do anything differently?

No. Day-to-day school life will remain the same for parents and children. The main difference is that governance will be streamlined under one governing body.

When would federation take effect?

If approved, federation is expected to take effect from 1st September 2025 following the consultation process and final decisions by the governing bodies.