



**Turner Schools: More information for Parents and Carers  
of Morehall Academy and Martello Grove Academy**

*I have enjoyed meeting my first Morehall and Martello parents this week and the Turner Schools team and I look forward to meeting more of you in the near future.*

*There will be lots of opportunities to meet the team over the coming months but in the meantime I wanted to share with you some answers to questions I have already been asked by the school community.*

*Our contact email is at the bottom so please do get in touch if you have any further questions before the next term begins.*

*I wish you all a very happy summer break,*

*Jo Saxton, PhD. Founder and CEO, Turner Schools.*

Below you will find more information about Turner Schools, and about the arrangements for the Autumn Term.

**What happens after the summer holidays?**

You will bring your children to school as usual; and the schools will still be Lilac Sky schools until January 1, 2017.

Please note that both Morehall and Martello pupils start the new term on Monday September 5<sup>th</sup>.

**What is the relationship between Turner Schools and Lilac Sky?**

Turner Schools and Lilac Sky are working together closely to ensure that it is 'school as usual' in September.

**How long will Turner Schools be here for?**

Turner Schools is here for the long-term. We are not working to a fixed-term contract.

### **What will Turner Schools be doing between September and January 1?**

Turner Schools will be working with the senior leaders to get to know the needs of the children, the strengths and areas that need improvement in both schools, as well as getting to know teaching, support and premises staff better, and meeting more of you during the Autumn term.

### **Will Turner Schools be making changes?**

We will make changes where there is evidence that standards and educational outcomes need to improve, and we will talk to you when this is the case.

### **How was Turner Schools appointed to Sponsor Morehall Academy and Martello Grove Academy?**

The Department for Education's Regional Schools Commissioner for the South East of England and South London (SESL), in consultation with the SESL Headteacher Board, appointed Turner Schools to Sponsor these two schools.

### **What is Turner Schools?**

Turner Schools is a Department for Education (DfE) approved Academy Sponsor. It is a so-called 'MAT' or Multi-Academy Trust, a charity to run schools funded directly by government. Turner Schools is a charity regulated by the Department for Education. Like all Academy Trusts it is registered as a company at Companies House. Its governance structure has been approved by the DfE and accords with the principles of the Governance Handbook: (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governance-handbook> ).

### **If Turner Schools is a registered company does that mean it is a profit making organisation?**

No. Turner Schools is a charitable organisation, dedicated to improving the educational outcomes of young people in schools in East Kent. We do not make a profit. Turner Schools operates according to the DfE's model Articles of Association, and the rules of the Academies Financial Handbook ( <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academies-financial-handbook> ) which prevent it from making profit. The Members and Trustee Directors are unpaid, and the CEO is the only Director who could be paid.

### **What is the purpose of Turner Schools?**

Turner Schools exists to transform life-chances for young people through education in schools. In legal terms the object of the organisation is the advancement of education.

### **What is the educational ethos of Turner Schools?**

We are committed to achieving high academic standards in an inclusive and nurturing environment. For more on our ethos and approach to practice, a summary of our HEART model is on our website: [www.turnerschools.com](http://www.turnerschools.com)

### **Will Turner Schools change the uniform from January 1, 2017?**

No. We won't change the uniform in the first year as we recognise that would be inconvenient for you, and an unnecessary expense. We may, however, ask you to iron or sew new logos on the pockets of the school blazers (and will organise a group sewing bee coffee morning at school to do this together).

We will seek local suppliers for the uniform in time, and plan to provide highly requested items, such as the ties, in school. We will also work with the PTFA to organise second-hand uniform sale.

**Will Turner Schools change the term dates and school holidays?**

No, they will stay as published by Lilac Sky for the 2016-17 school year, and we will consult with you on any possible changes for the following year. Our aim will be to plan term dates that support full pupil attendance.

**What is Turner Schools approach to SEND or special educational needs?**

We believe that all pupils deserve the best possible education and champion inclusivity within a nurturing yet appropriately challenging environment.

The founders of Turner Schools have been responsible for a range of SEND provisions and units in other settings, from Specialist Speech and Language units, Visually Impaired provision, Learning Difficulty and Autism Spectrum Disorder provision. In all cases these achieved Good or Outstanding outcomes for the pupils in our care.

**Will the new building for Martello Grove Academy go ahead?**

Yes, the new building on Warren Way, East Folkestone, is being built at present and will become a Turner Schools building from January 1. It is being built by Kent County Council to provide more school places for Folkestone and Martello Grove will move into the new premises at the end of Term 1, 2016.

**Will the specialist autism unit at Martello Grove go ahead?**

Yes, this place provision has been commissioned by the local authority, and is not effected by the change in Sponsor.

*We will have plenty of time for further meetings in the Autumn, but in case you have any other pressing questions email them to:*

*enquiries@turnerschools.com*