



Department  
for Education

Regional Schools Commissioner's Office  
East Midlands and Humber

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Steve Tinagate  
Chair of Governors  
Brocklesby Park Primary School  
Great Limber  
Grimsby  
Lincolnshire  
DN37 8JS

27 March 2015

Dear Mr Tinagate

Thank you for your application to convert to an academy, joining Tollbar Trust. Your application was discussed at the Headteacher Board yesterday. After careful consideration, including representations received prior to the meeting, it was decided to decline Brocklesby Park Primary School becoming an academy.

I realise that this is disappointing. In reaching this decision, we could not ignore the fact that the school has very low pupil numbers and is currently only 25% full. Even with future predictions and adding a nursery, it will potentially have only 38 pupils in total and will be only 68% full. We are also aware that the local authority has commenced a consultation on the proposal to close Brocklesby Park due to concerns about its long term sustainability and capacity to offer quality education to pupils with the resources available.

I recognise that joining Tollbar would allow the school to benefit from greater economies of scale and would strengthen the educational expertise available to the school. However, the extremely low current and projected numbers on roll; the low pupil numbers in the local area and capacity available in the schools nearby would make it extremely difficult for the trust to be viable in the long term.

I am copying this letter to the headteacher and to Lincolnshire Local Authority.

Yours sincerely

**JENNIFER BEXON-SMITH**  
Regional Schools Commissioner, East Midlands and Humber

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