



This leaflet is part of a series produced as part of our Co-operative Status. If you would like more information contact our Co-operative Affairs Officer via the school or visit our membership site www.co-operative.stb.coop

A new status for our school, what does it mean?

First consider what it doesn't mean!

Does this mean that the school is being taken over by another co-operative such as the Co-operative Group?

No! Each co-operative is independent. It simply means that we will be running our school as a co-operative.

Are there other co-op schools?

Yes there are many other co-op schools in the UK and many more in other countries. Each co-op school is independent and worked in its own way. As they are all co-operatives they will work together when they can to help each other develop. Together we have founded another co-operative, the Schools Co-operative Society to help us co-ordinate with each other.

Why have we chosen this type of way of running our school?

There are many new ways that schools are being organised. Co-operative status keeps our school as part of the local community and gives people in the area (parents, pupils and members of the community) a true say in how it is run through being of the co-operative. This is unique to education within the UK and we believe a better system than other currently on offer. It puts the 'community' back into community schools.

Does co-operative status mean that we become some huge 'flatarchy' without managers?

No. Co-ops have management like any other business or association.

What are Co-operative Values and Principles?

These are the very basis of any co-operative. They are the basic backbone to how the co-operative acts and develops. As they are internationally agreed and have been well tried they are safe and can act as a guarantee that a school keeps its eye on the most essential thing we are about – the type of child we developing. For more information see our website.

Does this mean that our pupils will learn about co-ops and not other ways of running a business?

NO. Remember that a co-op is a way of organising things. Pupils will learn a lot about how to do things democratically, about being active and involved, and most of all develop good citizenship values.

For more information see our membership website www.co-operative.stb.coop