

School Expansion Update Newsletter - June 08

Proposals for Permanent Expansion and Amalgamation

On 10th June The Head Teacher and Chair of Governors met with Local Authority (LA) officers to discuss the proposed expansion. The main outcome of the meeting was to establish a firmer basis for dialogue between the school, the governors and the LA and for us to gain a better understanding of the proposed timescales and consultation processes. It is part of an ongoing process, and further meetings are planned.

Consultation with stakeholders in the school and the community

The LA is planning a series of consultations, some of which are statutory. The first consultation is being run by **Involving Residents In Solutions (I.R.I.S)**, and the school has been requested to distribute (along with this newsletter) the letter and form for this consultation to staff, parents and carers. Please note that the deadline for responses is **Friday 25th July** (end of term). The LA will need to hold a further statutory consultation in relation to the proposed increase in the schools' size and also go through the local government planning process. We believe a separate consultation will also be needed for the proposal to amalgamate the two schools, although this may run concurrently with the consultation on the change in admission numbers.

The Governing Body's role

The governing body itself will be debating the expansion and proposed amalgamation in its July meeting. In the meantime governors are pressing the LA for further details of how the proposals, including the proposed amalgamation, would be implemented. It is also essential that governors are aware of the views of stakeholders. We are therefore engaging with all key groups, including staff and parents and carers, in order to achieve this.

Open Meeting Monday 30th June 7 - 8.30pm at the school.

This meeting is being arranged and facilitated by governors. Its aims are:

- to ensure governors are aware of the views of stakeholders
- for governors to share information from their ongoing dialogue with the LA
- for stakeholders to exchange views

We hope as many people as possible will be able to attend. The meeting has been timed to fit in with both the Primary Review consultation (see below) and the IRIS consultation (see above)

The Primary Review

The proposals for expansion form part of the Primary Review. Details of this, which include plans for our neighbouring schools, can be found on the City council's website: <http://www.bristol-cyps.org.uk/policies/primary-review.html>
The closing date for the Primary Review consultation is **Friday 18th July**.

More information

Previous newsletters relating to the proposals are available on the school's website: http://www.seftonparkschools.bristol.sch.uk/index_files/Page617.htm
If you would like to contact the governing body in relation to this, please either leave your contact details at the School office, or use the Chair of Governor's e mail address: chair.sefton.park.i@bristol.gov.uk

Janet Bremner, Chair of Governors