



Governor's Newsletter

Kings Cliffe Endowed School Governing Body Newsletter

18th November 2014

Dear Parents

Preparing for the move to a two tier education structure

This letter intends to provide you with an update on all the latest developments in our preparation for the move to a two tier education structure.

As you are aware from our school weekly newsletter, the Cabinet at Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) met last Tuesday and approved plans to restructure schools in our area to a two-tier model of primary and secondary schools. Those changes will be introduced in September 2015.

While the political process has continued, schools - including our own - have been developing plans for the changes. We have had a number of discussions with the County Council, including joint meetings with the Kings Cliffe School Foundation, who have supported the school and the development process to date enormously. In addition to this local planning, a central steering group has been set up by County to oversee these changes, which includes a number of Governors and Heads from across the cluster. Some of the most significant developments over recent months include:

Detailed implementation plans are being developed with NCC, covering all aspects of the change

- Heads from across the cluster have agreed plans for benchmarking and monitoring pupil progress before, during and after the transition to two tier. Those plans aren't just about academic progress, although that is important - they also cover pupils' attitudes to school & learning, as we know that pastoral care and support for children were important issues raised during the consultation process.
- Schools across the cluster are working together to plan for the staffing changes that will be needed. Those changes will be co-ordinated across all schools, so that staff in middle schools are well supported and recruitment activity is carefully managed to ensure that staff are in place for the new school year. As with other primary schools, Kings Cliffe Endowed School is currently developing its new staffing structure, ahead of commencing recruitment.
- A great deal of work is underway to ensure that arrangements are in place for implementing an upper Key Stage 2 curriculum from next year. County have allocated funding to support teacher development, so that staff are ready to teach a wider age range.
- Discussions with County about building works are continuing, so that we can finalise the accommodation plans for the transitional period while we wait for the new school site to be developed.
- A public website has been developed which provides easy access to the current Feasibility Plans for each school. The link for this is <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/council/consultations/school-changes/pages/north-east-northamptonshire-re-organisation.aspx>

With all of this activity underway, and more to come over the next few weeks & months, we are confident that Kings Cliffe Endowed School will be ready to take on a new year 5 from September 2015, and then with a Year 6, become a full 4-11 primary school in September 2016 in a fantastic new building, that will benefit our children and wider community enormously.

We will write regularly to you over the coming months to keep you up to date with the latest developments.

Sarah Dresner

Chair of Governors