



1st November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and all stakeholders,

Consultation: Age Range

The Members and Trustees of Avonreach Academy Trust, and the Governing Bodies of the four schools within the Trust, have a duty to monitor and react to the changes that take place within the education system and in both our local communities and those that impact on us, in order to ensure we provide the best possible educational outcomes for the children within our schools. Having discussed and reviewed at great length the structure of education within the Pershore pyramid over many years, the Governing Bodies are now proposing age range changes at all four schools to allow parents to opt for their children to be educated in a two tier structure. The Governing Bodies of the four schools have thus decided to open individual consultations on proposals to increase the age range of each of the 3 First Schools to accommodate Year 5 and Year 6, and to increase the age range at Pershore High School to accommodate Year 7.

In brief, the First Schools currently operate to the end of Year 4, with children then moving on to Middle Schools to continue Key Stage 2 education for years 5 and 6, and the first year of Key Stage 3 at Year 7, before a second transition to High School. The Governing Bodies believe there are significant benefits to the children's education and future outcomes if they were to complete their Key Stage 2 education at their First School, which would be operating as a Primary School, with then just one transition to High School as illustrated:

Current Structure	FIRST SCHOOLS					MIDDLE SCHOOLS			HIGH SCHOOL	
	R	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9
	FSP	KS1		KS2			KS3			
	PRIMARY SCHOOLS					HIGH SCHOOL				
Proposed Structure	R	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6	YR 7	YR 8	YR 9
	FSP	KS1		KS2			KS3			

These consultations are open to all, including parents, pupils, staff, pre-school, Pershore pyramid schools and the wider community. We want to hear your views and establish if there is any significant issues that we have not already identified for the Governing Bodies to take into account when making the final decisions.

The consultation period opens on 2nd November 2017 and will run for 6 weeks, closing on 15th December 2017. There will then be a period of review by the Governing Bodies of all raised issues before each reaching a decision on this proposal. In order to ensure a secure education pathway is in place, Avonreach trustees will then collate the findings from each individual school and coordinate the final submission, if it is agreed to proceed, to the Department for Education/Regional Schools Commissioner.

We have prepared the attached document which includes more detail on the background to this proposal and answers to 'Frequently Asked Questions'. An area of each school's website will be created shortly to post newly raised questions and responses. Additionally Governors and Headteachers will be available to discuss any questions on:



Inkberrow First School: Monday 6th November, 2.30 pm and 6.00 pm
Norton Juxta Kempsey CE First School: Tuesday 7th November, 2.30 pm and 6.00 pm
Cherry Orchard First School: Wednesday 8th November, 2.30 pm and 6.00 pm
Pershore High School: Tuesday 14th November, 6.00 pm

At those meetings, and on the websites and via book bags for those that cannot attend, we will distribute a feedback/comments sheet to allow stakeholders to formally register their views on these proposals and to document any further questions or concerns and we would be grateful for as many responses as possible, either in support or in objection, in order that the Governing Body can be as fully informed as possible prior to reaching their decisions on this proposal.

Many thanks in anticipation of your involvement in the consultation process and we look forward to hearing your views on these proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Longdon
(Chair of Trustees)

Clive Corbett
(Executive Officer)

Circulate to:

All parents/carers
All Staff
Union representatives
Diocese of Worcester Education Department
Local Authority/Babcock Prime admissions teams
All Pershore pyramid schools
Nurseries & Pre-schools
Town & Parish Councils
Avonreach Members & Trustees