



Wessex
Learning Trust
We Learn Together!

9 June 2017

Dear Parents and Friends

RE: Proposed Wessex CofE Primary Academy

I wanted to inform you about an exciting development within the Wessex Learning Trust (WLT). An application to establish the Wessex CofE Primary Academy, a state-funded Church of England school for children aged 4-11 years, will be submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in the autumn 2017. The school will provide state-of-the-art facilities at the heart of the new communities created at Brue Farm and Isleport at Highbridge, near Burnham-on-Sea.

Wessex CofE Primary Academy is proposed by the WLT of which our school is a member. The Trust is working with Bath and Wells Diocese in developing a compelling application which we very much hope the DfE will approve in the new year. The proposed school will be based on the successful educational practice delivered at Axbridge and Weare Church of England First Schools and the Hugh Sexey CofE Middle School, supported by WLT which strives to offer a world-class, 21st century education by providing outstanding learning opportunities and creating centres of educational excellence that meets the needs of all children and young people from 2 to 18 years.

Chris Richardson, Executive Headteacher of the Trust notes: "Wessex CofE Primary Academy will offer pupils of all faiths and none the very best educational experience with a rich and dynamic curriculum and wide range of enrichment activities including modern foreign languages, science and sport, all provided within a supportive and inclusive Christian ethos. The school will meet the growing demand for places locally and will have a strong community focus – a new school in the heart of its community."

If approved, Wessex CofE Primary Academy would open with provision for up to two Reception classes of 30 children and a nursery, subject to demand. The opening date for the first intake would be agreed with the DfE and Somerset County Council following a successful application. The new school would join our successful family of schools within WLT, increasing our capacity to serve more families in the region to provide children with a high quality education.

We will be holding an information event to provide more details about the proposed Wessex CofE Primary Academy and provide an opportunity for the community to meet representatives of the Wessex Learning Trust on Wednesday 12 July 2017 at the Highbridge Community Hall, Market Street, Highbridge, Somerset TA9 3BW from 3.30pm to 6.30pm. You are very welcome to join us.

Demonstrating support from parents and members of the wider community is a crucial part of the school's application. To register your support for the proposed school please visit our website (live from Monday 12 June): www.wessexcofeprimary.org.uk/register. You can also find the school on Facebook @wessexcofeprimary (also live from 12 June). Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

BRIAN KIRKUP
Chair of the Board of Directors

Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset BS27 3AQ Telephone: 01934 742608 Fax: 01934 742757

Email: office@kowessex.co.uk www.kowessex.co.uk

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