



10th December 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians

Bedford Girls' School ~ Transfer Plans

Following my letter of last week I write today to give you more information about the presentation of the transfer plans relating to the phased merger of the two senior schools. These plans will be presented to parents on 7th January, with the supporting rationale behind the options that are being developed. The evening will be held in two sessions at 6pm and at 8pm at Dame Alice Harpur School in the senior school Assembly Hall. Copies of the plans will be available for you to take away with you after the presentation.

This will begin the period of consultation and will be followed by a series of year group meetings week commencing 11th January (see below for details). A final decision on the phased plan will be made by half term.

Miss Jo MacKenzie, the newly appointed Head of Bedford Girls' School, will be present on the 7th January and looks forward to meeting you there. She will outline some of her ideas and vision for Bedford Girls' School. This is an important meeting and we hope many of you will be able to attend. Please can you let us know which session you will be attending by emailing enquiries@dahs.co.uk

The year group meetings will give you an opportunity to discuss your concerns with the Heads, Trustees and senior members of staff from the Harpur Trust office. The meetings will be held in the main hall at Bedford High School for Girls as follows:

Year 6	-	Monday 11 th January from 7pm to 8pm
Years 7 & 8	-	Tuesday 12 th January from 7pm to 8pm
Year 11	-	Wednesday 13 th January from 6pm to 6.30pm, repeated at 7.30pm to 8pm *
Years 9 & 10	-	Thursday 14 th January from 7pm to 8pm

* any Year 11 parents who did not have enough time to attend the meeting because of their daughter's parents evening are welcome to join the Years 9 & 10 meeting on Thursday 14th January. Parents of Year 11 DAHS pupils who wish to attend are invited by Mrs Berry to the 7.30pm session on Wednesday 13th January.

Last week Mrs Corinne Royden, the new Head of Bedford Girls' Junior School, hosted a 'Meet the New Junior Head' evening at the Cardington Road site for all Junior School parents. Many Junior School parents were able to attend the evening where they heard Mrs Royden share her vision for Bedford Girls' Junior School and how the girls will be brought together over the coming months so they get to know one another better. In the New Year Mrs Royden also plans to meet with as many parents as possible as well as getting to know all of the girls and the Junior School staff at the Cardington Road site.

We look forward to being able to share the proposals with you on 7th January and wish to reassure you that your daughter's education is paramount and, with your support, we will ensure a smooth and successful transfer for the girls to the new school.

In the meantime a new Q&A document will be posted onto the Bedford Charity's website www.bedfordcharity.org.uk before the beginning of the new term.

On behalf of the Project Steering Group I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally Peck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Sally Peck
Chair of Merger Project Steering Group