



Dear Parents and staff

Update 29th January 2020

This letter is to update you on the timescales for the formal consultation on the proposal to amalgamate Redlands and Smithy Schools.

We would like to thank you for the time and effort you have all put into responding to the Informal Consultation. This information was collated and written up on a consultation response document, and shared with parents in the Autumn Term at parents' meetings, as well as being available on each school's website.

The Local Authority have considered the responses and will now be meeting to decide whether to move to statutory notices¹ on January 29th in the Council Cabinet Meeting. If they do decide to move forward the notices will be published at the beginning of February and the statutory consultation will run for 4 weeks.

During the four weeks consultation time, there is an opportunity for you to make any representation (opinions and comments) direct to the Local Authority. The information about how to do this will be included in the Statutory Notice.

After the completion of this stage, the Council will reach their final decisions in the Cabinet meeting on March 26th. Seven days after this we will be able to confirm to you what decision has been made.

In the meantime, our two schools will continue to work together and staff from both schools will continue their determination to provide the best possible education for your children.

We are grateful for all your feedback to us and we are listening to your views very carefully. Together we will shape a secure future for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely

Anna Gouge

Redlands Chairs of Governors

Ros Coffey

Smithy Street Chair of Governor

¹ A statutory notice is the formal notice published by the Local Authority to explain their plans, and to announce how any stakeholders can make representations to the Local Authority about their proposal. It is sometimes called "formal consultation" and should be made available to all stakeholders.