

SCHOOL ORGANISATION FORUM -

1. Academy Status - Dartmouth

A consultation event was held on 8 March 2010 at Dartmouth Community College. This event was well attended (72) by parents, staff, governors, union representatives and neighbouring schools. A copy of the notes on that event are attached. A separate consultation on the Academy will be held by the lead Sponsor between March and June 2010.

The Expression of Interest (EOI) was approved by Ministers on 9 March 2010 and the project has moved in to 'Feasibility' which will develop the ethos and vision for the proposed Academy including wide consultation with the pupils, staff, parents and wider community. The proposed Academy is scheduled to open in its existing buildings in September 2010.

2. National Challenge - St. James

Trust status will take effect from 19 April 2010.

3. Competition Process

Primary School, Okehampton

A Cabinet Member Decision Form has been completed delaying the new primary school but with a recommendation that this should be reviewed and monitored against new housing development. The prospective proposer COPSE has been informed of the situation and a meeting is being arranged with the Town Council to brief them on the current position.

The Local Learning Community has a high degree of surplus places and following the Area Review it was agreed that all schools would wish to see a collaborative approach and particularly the close involvement of the new primary school, existing primary and the Community College. Discussions will continue with the LLC and the prospective promoter COPSE.

4. SOF Terms of Reference, 8.5

Statutory consultations and proposals in respect of changes to local organisation of schools

All-through School, Sherford

Nothing further to report at present.

Cornwood Church of England Primary School

A Cabinet Member Decision Form has been completed to formalise the enlargement of Cornwood Primary School from 70 to 105 with effect from September 2010. The net capacity of the school had previously been at 105 but because the school had previously had surplus accommodation (due to a fall in local pupils) the capacity was reduced to 70. Following the closure of Sparkwell Primary School it is now necessary to accommodate additional pupils to meet the demand for places locally.

Sparkwell Primary School

As reported previously the detail of the Trust Deed is complex and the land and buildings will revert to the Trustees, who are pursuing discussions with the Steiner and Montessorie Schools. It has now been agreed that the ICT equipment will be transferred to Cornwood Church of England Primary School which is now the designated school for the area.

Lampard School

The enlargement of the School from 69 to 80 places and the redesignation to take pupils with Complex needs and ASD to take effect from 19 April 2010 has been agreed by Cabinet on 10 March 2010.

Clearwater House, Bideford

A Cabinet Member decision form has been approved to conduct consultation on the proposal to temporarily make changes to Marland Special School by adding a BESD day place unit for up to 8 boys and girls aged 11-16 at Clearwater House, Bideford with effect from the Autumn term 2010. The project is within the Invest to Save programme and part of the wider Stepping Stones initiative. Longer term a permanent provision at an alternative site in Barnstaple is planned. The consultation event will be held on the 27 April 2010 at Bideford College and the consultation period ends on 13 May 2010.

Uffculme School

Cabinet will consider the proposal on development of post 16 provision at their meeting on 14 April 2010.

Great Torrington Community School

Consultation has now commenced on the School's intention to extend their age range to 11-18. Details are contained on the School's website at: www.greattorrington.devon.sch.uk The proposal would need to be endorsed within the Area Plan and by all stakeholders including North Devon College. The consultation ends on the 20 May 2010.

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