



FEBRUARY 3RD 2017

Dear all,

I am writing to inform you that a consultation will begin on Monday, February 6th on proposals regarding the future of The Sixth Form College Solihull.

As you are aware, an application has been submitted to the Department for Education to convert the College to an academy.

Under the Further Education Act 1992, the College would dissolve and transfer its property, rights and liabilities to Ninestiles Academy Trust, creating a pioneering partnership which would be the first Multi-Academy Trust of its kind in the country.

This is a bold initiative, with significant advantages which I strongly believe will help to secure the services, ethos and provision we all hold dear.

Ninestiles Academy Trust currently comprises of seven schools across Birmingham and Solihull - Ninestiles An Academy, Erdington Hall Primary School, Lyndon Secondary School, Pegasus Primary School, The Oaklands Primary School, Yarnfield Primary School and Cockshut Hill School.

The Trust and College first began talks to merge in early 2015 and later the same year the Government recommended they join together following a review of Further Education in Birmingham and Solihull.

The College and Trust jointly submitted a formal application to the Department for Education after their Governing Bodies unanimously voted in support of the merger in December 2016.

The six-week consultation ends on March 20th and will include a number of drop-in sessions being held for parents, students and staff:

**Drop-in Sessions for staff and parents/carers with children
at schools within Ninestiles Academy Trust**

Erdington Hall Primary School
Ryland Road
Birmingham
B24 8JJ

PARENTS Tuesday 14 th February 2017 3.30pm – 7.00pm	STAFF Wednesday 15 th February 2017 4.00pm – 6.00pm
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Ninestiles School An Academy
Hartfield Crescent
Acocks Green
B27 7QG

PARENTS Monday 13 th February 2017 3.30pm – 7.00pm	STAFF Thursday 16 th February 2017 4.00pm – 6.30pm
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**Drop-in sessions for staff, students and parents/carers at
The Sixth Form College Solihull**

The Sixth Form College Solihull
Widney Manor Road
Solihull
B91 3WR

STAFF	STUDENTS	PARENTS
Tuesday 14 th February 2017 4.00pm – 5.30pm Daily sessions between 8.30am and 9.30am from Monday 13 th February to Friday 17 th February 2017	Tuesday 28 th February 2017 12.35pm – 2.30pm Wednesday 1 st March 2017 12.35pm – 2.30pm	Monday 6 th March 2017 5.00pm – 7.30pm Wednesday 8 th March 2017 5.00pm – 7.30pm

Public Community Meeting

Community Thursday 9 th March 2017 5.00pm – 7.00pm Venue TBC

Anyone wishing to have their say can also complete a survey by visiting
<http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/merger-consultation/>

You can also call the Consultation phone line on 0330 9000 012, email your views to response@ca-education.co.uk or write to Clarke Associates, The Old School House, Chapel Lane, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6JX.

More details about the consultation can be found at www.ca-education.co.uk

The merger, if approved by the Secretary of State for Education, is expected to take place on August 1st 2017.

Myself, the governors and senior leadership teams at both the Trust and the College are keen to hear your views and would be grateful if you could help inform the future of the College and Trust.

Meanwhile, I thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Principal Paul Ashdown