



St Peter's

Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Following the article in The Times of Tunbridge Wells on 8th August 2018 and the subsequent article in The Courier on 22nd August 2018, I wanted to write and clarify few points that were made in these articles and to correct some of the misinformation they contain.

At the end of July 2018, KCC issued a statement regarding the expansion and relocation of St Peter's Church of England Primary School and a complete version of this statement is reproduced on the reverse of this letter. This states that the new school at Hawkenbury Farm will not be ready for the start of the 2019-20 academic year i.e. in September 2019 but is "anticipated to be delayed until February 2020".

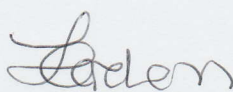
Despite this delay KCC have decided to proceed with the expansion of the Reception year group in September 2019 and so our Published Admission Number for Reception in 2019-20 will be 30 rather than the 20 pupils that will continue that year in Year 1 - 6. The current classroom used for Mars class (our Reception year group) is not large enough to accommodate outstanding early years' provision for 30 children. However we do have other classroom spaces which are significantly larger than the Department for Education's recommendation for classrooms sizes, particularly in Key-Stage 2. We are therefore working closely with the appointed developer for the new build, Galliford Try, to change some internal walls in order to reconfigure existing classroom spaces to accommodate the additional Reception children expected in September 2019. Any internal work that is required within the existing building will be carried out during the summer holidays 2019 in order to not disrupt the children's learning and will be fully funded by KCC.

There will not be a temporary classroom erected anywhere on the existing school grounds as suggested by the local newspaper articles.

The delay to the completion of the new build is unfortunate. However I continue to have fortnightly meetings with KCC, the developer and their appointed architects to develop plans for a purpose built school building, fit for education in the 21st century which will enable us to continue to develop the outstanding practice associated with St Peter's CEP School. These plans should be available for you to view on a special consultation evening in the next couple of weeks. A letter will be sent out to all parents once this date is agreed.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Miss L. Goreham