

Consultation on the proposal to make a proposal to make a prescribed alteration to Stiperstones CE Primary School

Meetings held during consultation and key points raised

18 March 2019 - Meeting with all Federation Schools staff members

- It was explained that remaining on the Stiperstones site would incur a deficit budget in 2019/20 with the situation worsening in future years.
- Staff members from Stiperstones CE Primary raised concerns about possible redundancies - *The headteacher explained that new roles would be created subject to numbers of children who would transfer to a new site, but that some redundancies could not be ruled out.*
- Discussions were held about probable new class structures in the future at Norbury Primary School and Chirbury CE Primary School.

19 March 2019 - Drop in Meeting for Parents and Community at Stiperstones CE Primary School

- The meeting was very well attended with representatives from most families.
- A presentation was made by governors to explain the proposal in detail.
- Parents wanted to know what will happen to staff members from the school if the proposal goes ahead - *We explained that it would depend upon number of children who transfer, and to where; new positions which may be created as a result; and the wishes of staff members. We explained that this would be a separate consultation with staff if this one goes ahead.*
- Parents wanted to know whether we would move children at any time or at the start of a new term - *Governors explained that the move would take place at the beginning of a term (aiming for January 2020). However, from summer 2019, schools would organise transition sessions which would become more frequent during autumn 2019, so that all children would become accustomed to the changes in advance.*
- Parents wanted to know the distances that would be travelled by children to Norbury - *The distance, door to door between the two sites is 6.9 miles by road. The distance travelled by children in catchment who may be collected nearer to their homes may be greater or lesser than this. Transport arrangements are to be decided, but it was explained that the Federation would have its own transport (two new minibuses) by the 29 April 2019.*
- One parents felt that it would be difficult to make a decision until they knew if their child's teacher would definitely be transferring to the new site. - *It was explained that this was not possible. Teachers may change regardless of consultation: they change roles within schools and move schools for numerous reasons at a half term's notice.*
- Parents felt that an amalgamation of school uniforms would be a good way forward to integrate children as quickly as possible. Parents did not like the idea of two separate uniforms within one setting.

20 March 2019 - Drop in Meeting for Parents and Community at Norbury Primary School

- The meeting was attended by four parents from three families.
- A presentation was made by governors to explain the proposal in detail.
- A concern was raised about the amount of space that children would have to play - *It was noted, but also pointed out that children at Norbury generally have much greater space currently than at other schools and that with some careful planning safe play space for all could be achieved.*
- A question was raised about class sizes. - *We have worked out all class sizes for known children as they move through the school over the next four years. Average class sizes are between 26 and 30. In two years, the Year 3/4 class would be at 32 for one year.*
- A question was asked about extra-curricular activities. Norbury's are extensive and well-funded by PTA. Would we be able to continue this in the future with additional children? - *We stated that our aim was to extend and improve this further and that if our two communities continue to raise funds, there*

would be no reason why this could not happen. A parent asked if it would be appropriate to get in touch with Friends of Stiperstones School (FoSS) to discuss how this might happen in the future. We agreed that this would be a good gesture.

- One new family was unsure about the proposal and on the form that they brought in with them stated that they were unsure whether or not they thought it was a good idea. Once we explained the history and reasoning behind it, they were much clearer that it was the correct plan for the future and altered their form.
- School uniform was raised and we explained what had been suggested by Stiperstones parents to merge the uniforms somehow. This was thought to be a positive move which would reduce additional costs and waste.

Since the Consultation Closed

Parents and staff members from Stiperstones CE Primary and Norbury Primary School and Nursery met at a joint PTA and FoSS meeting to discuss ways of working together in the future. This was organised solely by parents of both organisations. It was an incredibly positive meeting where all present agreed to work together on all fund-raising projects in the future and that funds from both organisations should be utilised to support all children. A completely new annual fund-raising project was proposed by FoSS to generate additional funding to ensure that all families would receive the same level of subsidy for extra-curricular activities once the two schools were working closely together, should the proposal be approved by cabinet. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea and parents from both schools agreed to organise it.