



Mowbray School

North Yorkshire County Council

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Dear Parent/Carer

Friday 21st September 2018

The start to this term has been an excellent one and we have been delighted how all our 29 new starters have settled into school and how pupils have managed their transitions from the Primary Department to the Secondary department, my especial thanks to all of the staff for making this process successful.

Creation of a Mowbray School satellite provision for Primary pupils in Ripon

The need for places in special schools across North Yorkshire has risen significantly, as it has across the country. Demand for places here has been rising for many years, we have ourselves funded and built two new teaching blocks and other facilities, in order to increase our capacity and improve our provision, however the school is now full and the consequence of this is that we are unable to admit additional pupils.

Over the past year the Governors and I have been working with **North Yorkshire County Council** and other schools to look into how we can extend our provision, the result of this is that there is a **public consultation on the proposal to create a specialist satellite provision, which will be run and staffed by Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site in Ripon**, to be established from 1st September 2018. The proposal is that the provision will be for Primary aged pupils with an Educational Health Care Plan, pupils attending will be expected to join from their current school and not be transferred from Mowbray School, unless by parental request. If the proposal is passed, during the coming new year we will establish the admission criteria; staffing requirements; and refitting the school to meet our needs.

The proposal is also dependent upon the **closure of Ripon Moorside Infant School and them joining Moorside Junior School on that site**, thus leaving a vacant building which Mowbray School will take over

I am also emailing to you **consultation documents** from North Yorkshire County Council detailing the proposals, or you can follow these links to see the documents;

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/proposal-create-specialist-satellite-send-provision-mowbray-school-moorside-infant-school>

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/proposal-amalgamate-moorside-infant-school-and-moorside-junior-school>

There **are two public meetings scheduled, one at Mowbray School on Monday 8th October at 7pm and one at Moorside Infant School, Ripon on Wednesday 3rd October 2018 at 6.30pm**, parents and other interested parties are invited to attend either of these meetings, I will be present at both to provide further information.

Other information

Frustratingly, the ***school playgrounds*** are slowly nearing completion and as yet the Early Years play equipment has not yet been installed, I will keep you notified as to its progress.

I have been ***extremely pleased with how all our new staff*** have settled into life here at Mowbray and they have all quickly made very positive relationships with our pupils and staff. We also welcomed ***Mrs Tracey Cunningham***, who is employed also as a ***parent liaison officer*** working with Sharon O'Rourke, several parents will already have met with her. ***Mrs O'Rourke*** is also taking additional responsibilities by ***leading safeguarding systems*** throughout school.

Our ***Governing body*** has seen several changes following ***Mrs Cherie Miles (Vice Chair)***, leaving the board after many years of service to the school, her contributions have been invaluable to the school. ***Mr Simon Holden, who is a parent Governor, has been elected as Vice Chair of Governors*** and I am sure that he will continue to make an excellent contribution to the school. We have also appointed a new community Governor, ***Mrs Philippa Clarke***, who has a professional background in banking, I look forward to her working with the school over the coming years. I would also like to highlight the huge contribution our ***Chair of Governors, Mr Robert Dunning***, makes to the school, his contributions are voluntary and his guidance has helped the school grow and flourish over many years.

I would like to highlight to you that our first ***Parent evening*** of the year is on ***Thursday 18th October 2018*** from 5pm, the evening will be an opportunity for you to meet with key staff working with your child, further details about this will be sent out to you regarding booking appointments.

I very much look forward to the year ahead here at Mowbray School and meeting with you throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Tearle, Headteacher