



The Littletons School

# The Littletons School

A Church of England Voluntary Controlled First School

16<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Dear Parents/Carers and Members of our School Community

We would really appreciate your point of view on:

**Consultation regarding the extension of provision at The Littletons CE First School to include Year 6**

The Governors of The Littletons CE First School are considering extending our offer of education by one year to include Year 6. This would mean that pupils at the end of Year 5 could remain with us for an extra year to complete their Key Stage 2 education. We are working with Badsey First School, Honeybourne Academy and Bretforton First School, who are also formally consulting. We understand that Cleeve Prior and Offenham School are also considering consultations.

It is our intention to collect the views of parents and interested stakeholders, for example, the Local Authority, local Head Teachers and Governing Bodies, the Worcester Diocese and our neighbours, so that an informed decision can be made by our Governing Body. Depending on the responses received, it is hoped that a decision will be made in the Spring of 2015 with a view to implementing the change for September 2016 at the earliest. Please let us know what you feel.

The following information is intended to help answer any questions that you may have so that you can respond to the consultation and let us know your views. A response form is attached and we would appreciate it if you could return these to school by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Email responses are also acceptable to [office@thelittletons.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thelittletons.worcs.sch.uk).

Open meetings will be held at The Littletons School on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2.45pm and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 7.00pm when Governors will be available to answer any questions you may have.

We do hope you will consider the consultation and look forward to receiving your responses.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Helen Brambani  
Headteacher

Mrs Cath Gittins  
Co-Chair of Governors

Mr Sean Witheford  
Co-Chair of Governors

### **What arrangements would The Littletons School make for teaching Year 6?**

- We would use our existing highly competent staff as they are already trained to teach all Primary aged children including Year 6.
- The curriculum would be extended to offer the right level of skill and knowledge to ensure breadth and depth for Year 6 children. The necessary resources and training would be provided.
- Dependent on numbers, the school would be rearranged to accommodate the year 6 children; this would include some mixed aged classes.
- Staffing numbers will most likely remain the same and there will be no changes to the existing accommodation.
- We will continue to work with local schools to share resources, facilities and provide enrichment.

### **Would my child benefit from staying at The Littletons School for Year 6?**

- Pupils would complete all of Key Stage 2 in the same school (Years 3-6 are Key Stage 2).
- Pupils would not have to cope with the transition to a new school with a new approach in the year that they undertake public examinations (Year 6 SATs).
- Pupils would take Year 6 SATs in a familiar environment with familiar staff and familiar routines.
- Staff will have a clear understanding of your child's achievement over the whole of Key Stage 2 and will know the standard your child can achieve at.
- The options for the next stage of their education remain the same. Pupils could follow the Middle/High School (3 tier) or Primary/Secondary School (2 tier) pathway.
- For pupils choosing a 2 tier option there would be no need to attend a school for just one year (Year 6) before being able to join Year 7 at Secondary School.

### **What would be the pathway for my child's education after Year 6 at The Littletons School?**

- Our only official and guaranteed pathway will remain with Blackminster Middle School and The De Montfort School (previously Evesham High School & Simon De Montfort Middle School Federation).
- Parents could apply for a place to start Year 7 at Blackminster Middle School and then progress to the De Montfort School from Year 9.

### **What other options could I consider?**

- Parents could apply for a place directly at The De Montfort School from Year 7.
- Parents could apply for a place at any of the other Middle Schools in the area eg St Egwins Middle School.
- Parents could apply for a place in a neighbouring local authority from Year 7; for example Gloucestershire (Chipping Campden School) or Warwickshire (Alcester Grammar School), as some parents already choose to do.
- All of these options are subject to availability and the admissions criteria for the school.

### **Could I send my child to Middle School for Year 6?**

- Yes, parents would still be able to choose to move their child at the end of Year 5, as they do now, and apply for a place in Year 6 at Blackminster Middle School or any other Middle/Primary School they wish.

### **How would The Littletons School prepare my child for the transfer to their next school?**

- We recognise the importance of a smooth transition process for all pupils whether they leave at Year 6 or at any other time. We would continue to work with all relevant schools to which pupils

transfer in order that pupil information is transferred efficiently and that transition activities take place to help the pupils settle as quickly as possible.

### **Would the provision at Year 6 at The Littletons School affect transport arrangements?**

- The Local Authority funds transport to the nearest school with provision for the year groups concerned if it is more than a certain distance away from home. Parents would need to contact the Local Authority to confirm individual circumstances, but it is very unlikely transport would be funded by the LA.

### **Why now?**

- The government changed legislation which came into force on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 giving governing bodies the autonomy to make some changes to schools. One of these changes was alteration of upper or lower age limit by up to two years.
- Summer 2014 the Governing Body of The Littletons School considered the matter and decided that the school would wait and see what guidance, if any, would be forthcoming from the LA. No guidance has been received from the LA.
- In Autumn 2014 Honeybourne and Bretforton Schools began the consultation process and we have since learned that Badsey, Offenham and Cleeve Prior First Schools are likely to do the same. In order to be able to offer our parents the same choices as neighbouring schools, and not disadvantage our own children the Governing Body has decided to consult with parents too. The Governors do not want our school to be disadvantaged by those schools potentially being able to offer Year 6.

### **What options are there?**

- The school could remain as it is offering education up to the end of Year 5.
- The school could offer education up to the end of Year 6.

### **What happens next?**

- The consultation closes on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
- Responses can be made by returning the attached form to The Littletons School or by email to [office@thelittletons.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@thelittletons.worcs.sch.uk) by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
- Your views and thoughts are important to us so please take a few minutes to respond to this consultation.
- Open meetings will be held at the school to provide additional opportunities to ask any questions. These will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2.45pm and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 7.00pm.
- Once the consultation period has ended the responses will be analysed.
- A decision will be made by the Governors of The Littletons CE School once all the responses have been considered.
- We are actively working with the Local Authority in this consultation process. They will be kept informed and will have a say in the process. However, the ultimate decision lies with the Governing Body of The Littletons CE School. The Secretary of State will be informed of any decision we make.
- Parents will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.
- Any changes will be advertised in the admissions information for parents, in line with current legislation.
- Should the decision be made to go ahead, preparations will be made for the provision of Year 6, from September 2016 at the earliest, at The Littletons School.
- Should the Governing Body decide not to proceed with the application then we will continue to provide education for children up to and including Year 5.

Attached to this letter is your response sheet. Please sign if you are happy to share openly your thoughts and comments, this allows us to respond directly to concerns. If you would rather respond anonymously then please do so on the same sheet. Whatever your views on this we would like to hear them.



**The Littletons CE First School Consultation Response Sheet.**

**Consultation to extend the provision at the Littletons CE First School to include Year 6**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

I am responding as a

Parent  Teacher  Pyramid Headteacher  Other Headteacher

Member of the Community  Local Authority

Other respondent (please say in what capacity you are replying  \_\_\_\_\_)

**Re: The extension of provision at The Littletons CE First School to include Year 6**

**Do you support this? Yes/No**

Please give your comments or views in the space below or overleaf.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our consultation.  
Please return the form to school by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015.**