



24<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Dear Parents

The Governors of The Priory School met on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and have passed the resolution to expand the school by one form in 2017 and 2018 (i.e. intake an additional 30 pupils, relative to present) and then two forms from 2019 onwards (i.e. intake an additional 60 pupils, relative to present). We think it is important that you are aware of how the decision was made and how the consultation influenced the process.

### The Education Consultation

Consultation on this proposal was undertaken between 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015. On the first day of this consultation, a Statutory Notice was published in the Dorking Advertiser and posted on the school gates, a letter was sent out to all parents/carers of children at the school and an email was sent out to other relevant stakeholders (including the Governing Body, relevant unions and the local admissions authority). All of these communications directed interested parties to the school's website where the full consultation document was available, together with a Consultation Response Form.

A consultation meeting was held at the school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015. In all, 19 people were in attendance including School Governors plus the School Senior Leadership Team and Oliver Gill from Surrey County Council. Thank you to those of you who responded with the consultation form. We received ten responses to the consultation, mostly from local residents with five saying that they were against the proposal, two in favour and three "don't knows". The biggest concern for local residents was traffic.

At the Governors meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 the Governors had a full and frank discussion focussing primarily on the concerns raised as part of the consultation. It was unanimously agreed by all Governors present that the expansion be approved.

### The Next Steps

Approval must be sought from SCC Cabinet Members in December 2015. After this time, work on the design for the new building will begin in earnest and, once complete, there will be a public meeting held at the school which is where you will be able to have a pre-planning viewing of the proposals. The date and time will be confirmed in due course, along with who will be attending from Surrey County Council.

On a final note - this is a very exciting proposal, but we recognise that there are many challenges ahead. As a Governing Body and school we remain committed to ensuring that you are kept as informed as possible throughout the process.

In the meantime if you have queries please contact the school at [enquiries@priorycofe.com](mailto:enquiries@priorycofe.com)

Yours sincerely

Andre Sohatski  
Headmaster

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