

21 June 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

In March 2024 we provided you with the latest update on the changes to the school system in Pershore. Since then, we have commenced our work to ready ourselves for the conversion to take place but have been waiting for formal notification of the next steps from Worcestershire County Council to be able to provide a further update to you. We have received that notification today, so are able to now share those next steps with you, which we hope you will engage with at the appropriate time. By way of background, in October 2022, Worcestershire County Council agreed a commitment to support a collective change of age range to align schools in the Pershore Education Planning Area to a single, two-tier (primary and secondary) system of education, subject to confirmation of the funding necessary to expand Pershore High School. That funding has now been secured.

The previous consultation to make the age range changes was issued in the Autumn of 2021, with the overall response to the proposals being positive. However, due to the passage of time since then, and as there are likely to be new and different parent carers, staff, governors, leaders and decision makers, proposers agree it is appropriate to consult again on the proposals. This consultation period is proposed to take place in September 2024 and decisions announced in December 2024.

The proposed timeline for change would result in the change of age range at the first schools from September 2025, in line with the removal of the year 5 intake at middle schools in September 2025, and all pupils to transition to Pershore High for year 7 provision from September 2027. This timetable remains unchanged from the update we provided in March, so it would be our current year 3 cohort who would become the first year 5 cohort at Fladbury, assuming of course the consultation response is again positive.

This update on work to change the age range in the Pershore Education Planning Area will be considered at Worcestershire County Council Cabinet on Thursday 27 June 2024, with the recommendation that the consultation and timeline be approved. If anyone is interested in viewing the papers they are now live and are available on the Worcestershire County Council website.

Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 27th June, 2024, 10.00 am - Worcestershire County Council ([modern.gov.co.uk](http://modern.gov.co.uk)) Primary Conversion is a key element of our School's 5 year strategy and we are excited, and pleased, that positive progress is being made towards it. If you wish to see our strategy this is available on our school website:

<https://www.fladbury.worcs.sch.uk/page/?title=Governor%27s+5+Year+Strategy&amp;pid=161>

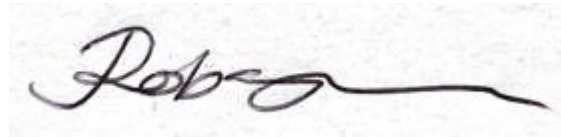
That said, this change is bound to raise questions for parents so, as we did before, we plan to hold a consultation information session once the consultation has been published in the Autumn term. We will confirm a date as soon as we are able to.

Finally, if anyone has any questions about anything in this letter please don't hesitate to get in touch with one of us via email ([head@fladbury.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:head@fladbury.worcs.sch.uk) or [jrobson@fladbury.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:jrobson@fladbury.worcs.sch.uk)).

Yours sincerely,



Julie Wilson  
Headteacher



Jenny Robson  
Chair of Governors