



## Ormiston Victory Academy

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13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are well, and I would firstly like to thank you for your unwavering support during the past few months. Like everyone else around the country, the academy is operating in challenging circumstances which are constantly changing, and I thoroughly appreciate the ways in which the entire Ormiston Victory community has rallied to help each other.

You will probably be aware that we launched a consultation at the start of October to seek views on proposed changes to our existing Admissions Policy which would impact from the academic year 2022-23. This was done to help the school explore ways in which we can respond to rapid local population growth and the subsequent increased demand for school places, while still serving the community in the fairest way possible.

Whilst it was an initial proposal, the change would have meant that, one of our named feeder schools, St Michael's Junior School, would have been removed and priority given to children in the catchment area from the remaining five feeder schools that have no other high school option except Victory.

The consultation has now ended (12<sup>th</sup> November) and I would like to thank everyone involved for taking the time to put forward their kind and considered thoughts and responses.

As an inclusive school community, we launched the consultation as we were keen to hear the thoughts of all interested parties. Having listened to the views of those across our community, the Governors have concluded that we will not be exploring this proposal further. We will continue to explore various options to ensure that we are doing all we can to serve as many children and young people across the local area, and we are so proud that our academy is considered as such a valuable part of the community.

The responses were very moving and we feel extremely emotional that we mean so much to the Bowthorpe community.

In light of this, I would also like to update you that, pending formal planning approval from Norfolk County Council later this winter, we hope to commence building work for a new block on our site. These exciting plans would allow the school to increase its Published Admission Number (PAN) to 300 a year in time for the 2022/2023 academic year, thereby allowing more pupils to study with us. We want to serve the local community in as positive and inclusive a way as possible, and we believe these ambitious plans will allow us to do so. As these proposals develop, we will continue to keep you updated. It is our hope, based on projected numbers, that this will enable all local children to secure a place with us.

Thank you once again, and should you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincere regards,



Naomi Palmer - Principal, Ormiston Victory Academy  
Director of Strategic Partnerships - OAT East