



Isle of Wight Council
Council Leader David Pugh

County Hall
High Street
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 1UD

Our ref: DP/KRS/080709
Direct Dial: 01983 823410
E-mail: david.pugh@iow.gov.uk

9 July 2009

Dear Parents,

You will notice in the County Press tomorrow that the Statutory Notices with regard to the future of individual island schools do not include Notices for Shalfleet, Yarmouth, Brading and St. Helens.

I am writing to explain that they are not included at this stage because there is a further statutory requirement for the Local Authority to consult upon the final decision to federate the schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth. As I have stated in the publication of the notices for other schools a further period of consultation for Shalfleet and Yarmouth will take place in September, with the statutory notices following in due course. This period of consultation must be completed in term time and will begin from the 1 September 2009. Details of a meeting for the area will be published in the County Press at this time and there will be a six week period for the public to make any further comment to the Local Authority on the final federation decision for these schools.

In preparation for federation a joint working party of governors from Shalfleet and Yarmouth schools have been preparing a Draft Instrument of Federation over recent weeks. Their proposed model for the federation has been accepted unanimously by their governing bodies, and has the full support of the Diocese and the Local Authority. The Governing Bodies of Shalfleet and Yarmouth must now consult with parents and neighbour schools on this Draft Instrument of Federation. To achieve this, the Chairs of the Governing Bodies in both schools, Fiona Thorpe and Kevin Shaw, will write to you within twenty hours with the Draft Instrument of Federation for your review and comment.

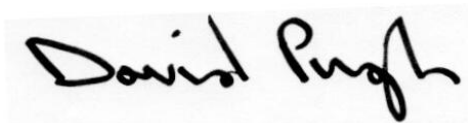
After the formal period of consultation, providing both communities and other stake-holders do not raise significant and reasonable objection to the decision to federate, the schools the Statutory Notices will be published. By completing this process by the end of the autumn term 2009, both schools will be brought back in line with the overall schools re-organisation timetable. Completion of the governors' consultation on the Draft Instrument of Federation by the end of September 2009 will allow clarification of the 2010 admission process for parents and ensure that the process of school re-organisation has no effect

upon the 2010 admissions process for Shalfleet and Yarmouth schools, and the proposed retention of Year 5 in September 2010, followed by Year 6 in September 2011.

I hope that you recognise that this does not change the Local Authority's resolve to ensure future provision within the Shalfleet and Yarmouth communities as determined from the Cabinet decision of the 31 March 2009. However, it is important that in achieving this, that we ensure full compliance with legislation. The programme we have agreed with the governors does this and ensures at the earliest opportunity clarity in future provision for parents.

If you have any questions on this, please contact your local school. Alternatively, you are welcome to contact me directly on david.pugh@iow.gov.uk, and I will seek to assist with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Pugh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'D' and 'P'.

Cllr David Pugh
Leader of Isle of Wight Council