



The Proposed Academy for North Bournemouth

Winter 2009/10

Community Newsletter

The Bourne Academy Specialisms: English and Engineering & Design

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Sponsors of the proposed Academy for North Bournemouth have confirmed the new name as **The Bourne Academy**. The name marks the start of a new and exciting phase of learning for North Bournemouth with the Academy at its centre.

A Message from the Principal Designate

I am delighted and proud to be appointed as the Principal Designate. I have been lucky enough to be able to make an immediate start and to have met some of you already. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for making me feel welcome and for contributing your thoughts, ideas and suggestions to the consultation process.

I am a committed and enthusiastic supporter of the drive to improve standards, engaging students through an active and creative approach to learning and believe that there is scope for each of us to transform ourselves through making the most of the opportunities that come our way. The proposed Academy would be designed to provide such opportunities through education for the students and for the whole community.

As Principal Designate, in partnership with the Sponsor and staff, I am now starting work on

various aspects of the Academy. We are committed to ensuring an ongoing dialogue about areas such as the building designs, policies, transition, Academy branding and uniform.

We will also ensure that the Academy website: www.theproposedacademyfornorthbournemouth.org is kept up to date and provides you with the latest developments, as well as the opportunity to send us your views.

I hope you will continue to stay involved – it is an important part of securing the best educational future for our community and is crucial in order to help shape how the Academy will look, feel and work when it opens in September 2010.

Jacqueline Steel
*Principal Designate, The Bourne Academy
(proposed)*



A Message from the Sponsor

Welcome to this first newsletter for The Bourne Academy that will aim to keep you up-to-date with new developments and the ongoing work with students, staff, parents/carers and the community.

Many of you may still be asking yourselves exactly 'what is an Academy?' and 'why do we need one here?' This newsletter aims to help answer these questions. Further information can be found on the project website.

As Sponsors, we are delighted with how the community has engaged with the consultation

process and we hope you will continue to do so. We greatly value your views and the suggestions you have made. Working together we will bring our joint strengths to create an outstanding Academy for North Bournemouth.

All of us at Canford School are looking forward to working with Academy staff, students and families and to making the Academy an outstanding place for teaching and learning, supported by excellent facilities and to building a partnership that will enrich both schools.



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Academy Focus Groups – Spring Term 2010

As the project moves towards this next phase, the Sponsor is keen that staff, students, parents and members of the community become involved in shaping how the Academy will look, feel and work and, in particular, in being part of the decision making process for the Academy's logo and uniform.

In addition to the consultation meetings held earlier this year, we will be holding a series of 'Reference Group meetings' for staff and students. We will be working with Kings High school to set up these groups for staff and students in the near future.

The Reference Groups will form an important part of the proposal process through which the Sponsor can listen to, and deal with, your concerns, as well as ideas and suggestions for the project and the way forward on subjects such as a new uniform, the new building, policies and shaping the new identity through the new logo and branding.

Please look out for further opportunities to become involved with the development of the Academy.

Open Event for prospective Year 6 students and families

The Academy Team was present at the enjoyable and informative open evening held at the current school, Kings High, on 1 October. As well as discussing the Academy proposal with interested parents and carers, the event made information about the proposed Academy available to parents and carers of local children in Year 6, who would

join the Academy in September 2010.

If you were not able to get to that event, or would like to find out more, you can download a copy of the proposed Academy prospectus from the website:

www.theproposedacademyfornorthbournemouth.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are Academies?

A. Academies are publicly funded independent local schools that provide a first class free education. They are all ability schools established by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups working with partners from the local community. Academies provide a teaching and learning environment that is in line with the best in the maintained sector and offer a broad and balanced curriculum to pupils of all abilities, focusing on one or more subject specialisms.

Q. So how do Academies raise standards?

A. Academies raise standards by innovative approaches to management, governance, teaching and the curriculum. The involvement of Canford School as the Sponsor will bring additional skills and expertise to the Academy.

Academies give every student the chance to fulfill their potential and to achieve the highest standards of which they are capable. They offer a special emphasis on one area of the curriculum, such as sport, science and technology, Modern Foreign Languages, business and enterprise or the arts. This Academy would specialise in English and Engineering & Design.

Academies are centres of excellence sharing their expertise and facilities with other local schools and the community.

Q. What are the specialisms? Why have them?

A. The proposed Academy would specialise in English and Engineering & Design, thus opening up a wide range of opportunities for students of all abilities, encouraging possible career paths in local industries such as tourism and engineering, both of which are

important to the local economy. No schools in the local area currently offer either of these specialisms, so the Academy has the potential to become a centre of excellence.

Q. What would Canford School's duties be as Sponsor?

A. One of Canford School's first duties would be to appoint a Governing Body. The Governing Body would include representatives from the Sponsor, educational partner, the local authority, the teaching staff and parents. Canford School's links to local engineering and design firms would allow the Governing Body to include representation from those firms, increasing opportunities for students.

Q. Are Academies inspected by Ofsted?

A. Yes – Academies are inspected by Ofsted using the same framework as for maintained schools. A full inspection is carried out on an Academy within 5 or 6 terms of its opening.

Q. What would the school closure mean for students?

A. All those students who want a place at the new Academy would automatically have the right to transfer, including those Year 6 children who have been offered admission to Kings High School for September 2010.

The transition to the new Academy would be carefully planned to ensure that all students continued to receive the highest quality of education without disruption.

Further Q&As are available on the website:
www.theproposedacademyfornorthbournemouth.org

Feedback from the Consultation Meetings

The recent public consultation meetings held at Kings High School were very well attended and we thank you for taking the time out to be part of the consultation process.

We have received a lot of feedback, suggestions and comments from the

events and value all the questions asked of the Sponsors about the proposed Academy. The Sponsors are committed to involving everyone in the community, and will continue to run Reference Groups to allow people to have their say.



Timeline

21 October 2009	Bournemouth Borough Council Cabinet Member makes decision on proposed school closure to make way for the Academy (subject to the successful completion of the feasibility stage)
December 2009	Funding Agreement completed
January 2010 – July 2010	Ongoing consultation with all stakeholders
September 2010	Academy opens in current buildings
September 2013	New Academy buildings completed and open



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