

June 2017

Dear parents/carers,

As you are aware, we have now received approval from the Regional Schools Commissioner to merge Ark Kings Academy and Ark Rose Primary Academy from September 2017.

This means that, from the 1st September 2017, Ark Kings Academy will operate as an all-through school for children from Reception – Y11 and the children currently at Ark Rose Primary will automatically be transferred onto the pupil roll at Ark Kings Academy.

We hope that this letter will provide you with all the information that you need ahead of the merger. We will also make all of the information available on the Ark Rose and Ark Kings websites. If you have any additional questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

School buildings

We are still looking at the long-term options for moving the primary children onto the Ark Kings site and we will report back on this in the next few weeks. In the meantime, we will continue to operate the school across the two sites.

In September 2017 Reception through to Year 4 will be taught in the current Ark Rose Primary buildings.

We are proposing that Year 5 and 6 will be taught in the new Ark Kings building from September 2017 and we will be discussing this with the parents of those children. We believe that educating Y5 and 6 students in the new Kings building will enable a smooth transition to secondary school and enhance their learning experience as they will have more regular access to specialist subject teachers and facilities.

If this goes ahead, Year 5 and 6 children would have school day timings that differ from the secondary pupils to ensure that they are arriving, leaving and moving around the building at the same time as the older students. Details of the school day are below.

School day – start and finish times

Secondary	Primary (Y5 and Y6)	Primary (Reception – Y4)
08:00 – gates open (secondary only) 08:25 – line up 15:30 – home time	08:35 – gates re-open at new Ark Kings building for primary pupils 08:40 – line up 15:15 – home time	08:40 – gates open 08:40 – line up 15:20 – home time

Uniform

Current Ark Kings students will continue to wear their uniform as normal.

Start of term and term dates

We are planning to hold some additional staff training days in September to ensure that when students return to the school all of the necessary changes have taken place and staff are fully prepared for working in the new all-through school and any changes that brings. When the school reopens, both the students and the staff will feel that the school has had a fresh start, and will be ready for the year ahead.

This will mean that term will start on **Monday 18th September 2017**.

We will confirm all term dates for the year as soon as possible.

Parent meeting

We will be holding a parent meeting for all parents at the new Ark Kings Academy building at 9am on Wednesday 28th June so that you can ask any additional questions that you have. You can of course also contact the school at any point to ask any questions.

Best wishes,



Roger Punton

Principal, Ark Kings Academy and Ark Rose Primary Academy