



Waldegrave School for Girls

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Dear parents and carers,

Sixth Form Proposal

The council is committed to expanding the choice and diversity of post-16 provision in the borough. In December 2010, the authority published a report, [Choice and Diversity: a policy paper for Education and Children's Services 2010](#) that set out the intention to create high-quality sixth forms in the borough's schools and academies. An online survey of school and college students, parents and other local people in March-May 2011 showed strong demand for high-quality sixth forms to be established in the secondary schools and academies within the borough: 87% of the 1,325 respondents indicated that they would like to see school sixth forms in the borough, whilst 10% indicated that they would not.

The council has prepared a feasibility report into the establishment of sixths forms and a detailed report into the accommodation that would be needed. These reports have been considered by a group called the Sixth Form Forum. The members of the forum are the heads of the eight secondary schools and academies and the Head of the Newhouse Centre, the principals of the two further education colleges, senior elected members and senior officers.

The Forum has approved in principle the proposal to establish sixth forms in schools in the borough from September 2013. This would be done collaboratively in a Partnership so that the application process, courses offered, enrichment activities and timetables are co-ordinated.

It is hoped that Richmond upon Thames College will play a central role by continuing to provide an outstanding provision for local young people. The Partnership would also like to benefit from the College's expertise in training for teachers, careers guidance for students, applications for university places and enrichment.

Work is continuing in developing the details, and the views of Year 9, 10 and 11 students, and of staff, have already been canvassed. However, before the school's governing body considers the proposal to add a sixth form, it would like to hear **your** views on the principle of adding a sixth form. If you would like to submit your views, please do so by email to returns@waldegrave.org.uk or by writing to me, **by no later than Friday 3 February 2012**.

The school's governors, having considered parents' views, will decide whether it should approve, in principle (and subject to detail), the proposed sixth form at Waldegrave. If the governors *do* take an in-principle decision, the Council would, probably on Friday 24th February, issue a more detailed formal proposal. You, other parents, local residents and other interested parties would then have four weeks to express your views. The Council's Cabinet would then consider the proposal and the responses to it and decide whether or not it should be approved.

Your views are, of course, a very important part of the decision-making process and I look forward to receiving them.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Nunn
Headteacher