

14.6.23

Dear Parents/Carers

Kidderminster Primary Schools' Alliance

For the past academic year, we have been working closely with four other local schools as part of the Kidderminster Primary Schools' Alliance. We thought it would be helpful to outline the aims of the group and provide information around our plans for the future and how this impacts on your children.

The schools are:

Chaddesley Corbett Endowed Primary School, Comberton Primary School, Cookley Sebright Primary School, Offmore Primary School and St Catherine's CE Primary School.

Our logo is:

Kidderminster Primary Schools' Alliance
KPSA



Background:

With many schools now academies and the reduction in support available from the local authority, the Headteachers of our five schools started to work together to support each other and share good practice, whilst ensuring that we each retained our own identities.

To date, the Headteachers have met half termly and Chairs of governors have met on a regular basis. This is to share good practice and formulate school improvement plans. Bringing together the five schools, brings together skill sets, strengths and experience.

More recently, we have started to plan events that will have a more direct involvement from the children such as the recent Maths and Reading competitions, but in the future will include sporting events and potentially a return of a cross school concert.

What is an alliance?

An alliance is an informal arrangement between two or more schools to work together. Schools retain their own governing bodies, budgets, uniforms and overall values and ethos.



Our aims are:

To improve the outcomes in the key areas of teaching and learning, behaviour and well-being and achievement through:

- Collaboration - the sharing of expertise, good practice, knowledge and data
 - Increased capacity (shared common policies and resources)
 - Better opportunities for high quality professional development
- Shared quality assurance - school to school visits (similar to Ofsted) and moderation (ensuring assessment judgements are fair and accurate)
- Improved economies of scale (for example bulk purchasing, shared costs)

Benefits of the alliance

Sharing resources, provisions and expertise across the schools - particularly for curriculum subject leadership and shared professional development for staff. The schools are able to build on established classroom approaches, allowing all staff to collaborate and improve standards in all schools. The cost effectiveness of shared work (such as staff training), makes previously unaffordable training accessible for all schools.

How is it different from academisation?

There is no formal, legally binding agreement and the school is able to walk away at any time. We hope this is not the case, but it is an option for each of the schools.

Keep an eye on our newsletters and dedicated KPSA web page that will be appearing in the Autumn Term to find out more about the alliance and our events.

Yours Sincerely

Miss J Edwards, Mrs D Frost, Mrs V Crisp, Mrs T Smith, Mrs A Cope
Headteachers

Mrs G Griffiths, Mr S Deakin, Mrs J Berry, Mrs M Bradbury, Mrs M Tindall
Chairs of Governing Boards