



Sandringham School

'Everybody can be Somebody'

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Dear Parent/Carer,

URGENT Request for help – Expansion of School Facilities (new English and Library block)

I wanted to bring you up to date with and **seek your support for our planning application** to provide a new English and Library block as part of our expansion to meet local demographic need. This will also allow us to develop the existing library into a new dedicated canteen to accommodate the increased numbers of students.

Herts County Council have made available £3.9m for this expansion, and we have already completed the new 3G flood-lit pitch and drama block. The English and library block, together with increased parking and new canteen will help complete the required expansion of the site.

The planning application for the English and Library Block was made with St. Albans and District Council last May, and, unlike our other planning applications, this one has faced some technical issues that required resolution before it could be granted. All but one of these have now been cleared and we anticipate the last remaining issue to be resolved shortly. **However, your support would greatly help by responding positively to the consultation 5/2018/1384.** As you will see, there have been about 4 rejections from local neighbours to the new build which have now resulted in councillor Lyn Bolton calling the application in to committee.

The outstanding issue involves an old public right of way path that needs to be moved or removed before part of the development can happen. The right of way is through the rear gate on the school fields and then dog-legs past the tennis courts. There is no exit at the other end – this has been fenced off since the school expanded in 1973. We have not seen anyone use this path since this time.

The proposal is that we make a condition on the planning application that the right of way cannot be built upon until such time that it has been resolved by being moved or extinguished. This will allow the planning application to proceed so that we can begin work on the new English and Library block (and additional car-parking spaces).

We feel the open access at the rear of the field presents a safeguarding and site security risk as well as preventing the expansion of the tennis courts which lie on the route of the public right of way.



Our local district councillor, Mrs. Lyn Bolton, is currently looking into this issue and whether the expansion is necessary. Hertfordshire County Council deem it necessary, as do the large number of families choosing the school for their child so we are very keen for the local district council to hear your support for the project. It would be really helpful if you could contact her offering your support for the expansion plans and how much this development is needed to meet local demands for your children. This could be a simple e-mail to Lyn at cllr.l.bolton@stalbans.gov.uk asking her to support the proposal. As with all processes, the more people who show support the better and every e-mail will count. We would also be grateful if you could copy your support to the official planning consultation at:

http://planning.stalbans.gov.uk/Planning/lq/dialog.page?org.apache.shale.dialog.DIALOG_NAME=qfplanningsearch&Param=lq.Planning&ref_no=5/2018/1384

It takes just a few minutes to do.

If you would like to know more about this, please feel free to contact the school. I hope we can resolve this soon so that the new building work can proceed in the new year.

Thank you in advance for your help with this matter and for helping us to further improve your school.

Kind regards,

Alan Gray
Headteacher