



**Sandringham School**

*'Everybody can be Somebody'*

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Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Update on the expansion of school facilities (new English and library block)**

Thank you to those who responded to the planning application 5/2018/1384 for the final phase of our development of the site to accommodate additional students as requested by Hertfordshire County Council. A key component of this application is a new English and Library block together with associated additional car parking and cycle provision. The new build means we are able to re-purpose the existing library into a second canteen area, which is urgently required to meet the increase in numbers of students. It is a very sympathetic design that will significantly enhance the campus and the vista of the school. An enlargement to the SandPit Theatre is also part of the plan.

We have worked closely with the planning officer to respond to all requirements for the application. Such processes necessarily take time to complete to ensure every aspect is considered and we now believe this has been accomplished to the high standard we would expect of ourselves.

Marshalswick North Councillor, Lyn Bolton, has called-in our application to a St Albans District Council planning committee meeting to take place on 21<sup>st</sup> January. Councillor Bolton has asked us to clarify that she is not querying the necessity of the expansion but rather the local impact of the expansion, particularly in respect to traffic movements in the area. She also wants to ensure that the due legal process is followed regarding routing of a public footpath that currently crosses part of the school field. Apologies to Cllr. Bolton for any confusion or misunderstanding in our December letter, and we are very grateful for her support. We are meeting local residents with Cllr. Bolton this week to discuss their concerns.

We would like to reassure parents that we are following the correct legal procedure around the public right of way and the safeguarding of our students is paramount. We also hope that our updated admissions criteria should mean fewer students in future are transported to school by bus and car. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to walk or cycle to school whenever possible out of consideration for our neighbours and the environment.

You are still able to make a comment in support of our planning application via the 'Make Comment' button on the St Albans District Council website: <https://goo.gl/sHhhnK>

Yours sincerely

**Alan Gray**  
Headteacher

