

William Willett Learning Trust

Hawkwood Lane Chislehurst Kent
BR7 5PS

Tel: 020 8468 1683
Fax: 020 8295 0342
Website: www.williamwillettlearningtrust.co.uk
Email: rcarling@coopersschool.com



Company Secretary: Mr R Carling IPFA

21 March 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Please could I draw the following statement to your attention:

Statement from the William Willett Learning Trust

Trustees of the William Willett Learning Trust (WWLT) have today resolved that two of its schools – Mead Road and Coopers – will seek to merge with the Bromley Educational Trust (BET).

This decision has been taken by the WWLT to give young people across the Borough access to a wider range of quality educational provision, to suit all abilities, interests and career aspirations.

The proposed partnership will also promote excellent professional development and opportunity for staff, as well as securing a better financial future for the Trust's schools.

BET is a Multi-Academy Trust affiliated with Bromley College of Further and Higher Education. With 50 years' experience of serving the community, the college, which recently federated with Greenwich Community College* is a well-known and trusted provider with close links to the Local Authority, employers and universities.

Andrew Downes, Chair of the William Willett Learning Trust, says:

"After very careful consideration, myself and the Trustees of the WWLT believe that becoming part of BET is an exciting opportunity for students and staff of Mead Road and Coopers Schools.

This potential move will provide us with a wealth of new experience, as well as an opportunity to share our own expertise with BET. It will open up many new learning pathways and specialist progression routes for young people.

We look forward to developing our relationship with BET over the coming months and ensuring our educational offer to the community is of the highest possible quality."

Caroline Jolliff, Chair of Bromley Educational Trust, says:

"We are delighted that the WWLT is exploring a merger with the BET family of academies. Setting up and developing collaborative strategic alliances with schools across the Borough – and indeed beyond – is key to our objective of ensuring all young people in the area have access to a quality education that is right for them.

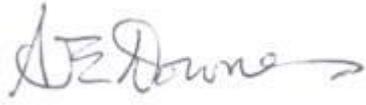
From primary delivery to Vocational FE and right through to degree-level programmes, through Bromley College and its partner universities, our mission is to support a range of provision to ensure excellent outcomes and future career success for students. This is also reflected by our intention to expand further in the coming year with the addition of a Health and Wellbeing UTC to the Trust, in which Coopers School will take a leading role.

We value the expertise and contribution of Coopers School to date. The insight of the senior team has been invaluable, giving us first-hand experience of what the partnership can bring. We believe that by working together, pooling our resources, expertise and assets, we are already making a huge difference to the lives and education of many young people living in and around the Bromley area."

Chair of Directors: Andrew Downes
Company Secretary: Rob Carling

The WWLT is submitting a proposal to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for the merger and transfer to the BET. A full stakeholder consultation will also be carried out, with date of transfer subject to due diligence and other required procedures.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Downes', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Downes
Chair of the Trustees

*Alongside the federation with Greenwich Community College, Bromley College has also been chosen by Bexley College (though a competitive structure and prospects appraisal) as the strategic partner of choice for a merger later this year. For more information see: <http://www.bromley.ac.uk/2015/12/16/bexley-bromley-college/>