

Change of Age Consultation

Overview Flyer



Dear Parents and Carers

You will be aware through our communications that the Avonreach Multi-Academy Trust have gone out to consultation on changing the age range of their schools. This will mean that Inkberrow First, Norton Juxtra Kempsey First and Cherry Orchard First would become Primary up until and including Year 6 and that Pershore High School would admit pupils from Year 7. This process would start in 2019.

As a Collaboration we do not feel that this is in the best interests of our students, our schools and all the schools in the pyramid. Globally (including countries like New Zealand and Japan), some of the most effective systems of education have a 3 tier model. We are sending with this flyer a **detailed newsletter** that provides clear, evidence based rationale as to our opposition to the proposal. In summary these are our key points:

- ◆ We strongly believe in the 3 tier model and that this statistically provides the best outcomes for students at the end of Key Stage 4.
- ◆ We have Secondary trained subject specialist teaching that has an impact from the start of Year 5 at the Middle School. We also can evidence strong outcomes in externally assessed data.
- ◆ The Department for Education are currently liaising with the National Middle Schools Forum as their transition is deemed to be highly successful, such a model would be lost under these proposals.
- ◆ There is evidence that Change of Age has had a negative impact on school provision locally, with Redditch and the Evesham Pyramid providing recent examples of this.
- ◆ We are concerned about the lack of information and evidence being provided to schools from the start of the consultation process.
- ◆ We would like clarity on the business model for Change of Age including the impact on the infrastructure, transport and most importantly the curriculum.

Please respond to the consultation and make your voice heard. Please copy us in, so that we can also represent your views:

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Mr Andrew Best