

## CLOSURE OF HALTON HIGH SCHOOL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ACADEMY

The Council is proposing the closure of Halton High school to establish an Academy for pupils aged 11 – 18 years old. This will be remodelled on the existing Halton High site as part of Halton's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme.

### Part 1:

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Halton Borough Council, Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QF intends to discontinue:

Halton High School , Barnfield Avenue, Runcorn WA7 6EP on 31st August 2010.

It is proposed that all the pupils from the Halton High will transfer to the newly formed Halton Academy which will be altered to expand the age range and become an 11 to 18 years old Academy from the 1st September 2010. Existing provision will continue. There will be no pupils displaced due to this re-organisation. Halton High currently has an EBD unit, following a statutory consultation earlier in the year it was agreed that the unit be discontinued from 31st August 2011. There are no pupils currently within the EBD Unit. It is proposed that all existing pupils will transfer to the Academy where provision will continue. There would be no impact on travelling as the new Academy is being established in the existing facilities with a refurbished facility being remodeled on the site of the existing Halton High School as part of the Halton BSF Programme. This proposal is subject to the successful completion of the current feasibility project and upon the agreement of the Secretary of State to the proposed establishment of a Halton Academy.

All Statutory consultation requirements have been complied with.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Ann McIntyre, Operational Director, Children and Young People's Directorate, Grosvenor House, Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2WD. Telephone Number 0151 471 7543. A full copy of the proposals can be found on <http://www.halton.gov.uk/bsf>. Within **six weeks** from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Mr M Reaney, Operational Director (Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources) Municipal Buildings, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QF.

Signed:



Publication Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009

**Explanatory Notes:**

All written comments received at the above addresses will be acknowledged. In January 2010, comments will be submitted to the Executive Board of Halton Council in the form of a report, copies of which will be made available to the public on demand. It will not be possible to send detailed responses to individual letters. After a report has been submitted to the Executive Board, all written responses to the consultation exercise will become available for inspection by the public.

Parents will continue to have the right to express a preference. It is recommended that for each of the years up to 2013 a degree of flexibility is retained at each of the three secondary schools in Runcorn to ensure all pupils can be accommodated in advance of the completion of the BSF Programme. The Published Admission Numbers (PAN) will be reviewed to ensure that by 2013 there are a total of 29 forms of entry in Runcorn with a total 870 pupils in each year group. For 2010 it is recommended, subject to approval by the Halton Admission Forum, that the Published Admission Numbers would be; Halton High - 180 (6 form entry plus sixth form); St Chad's Catholic High School - 240 (8 form entry plus sixth form); The Grange School - 180 (6 form entry); The Heath – A Specialist Technology College - 270 (9 form entry).

Academies are publicly funded independent schools with sponsors from the private and voluntary sectors. The establishment of an Academy is subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State. It is proposed that the closure of Halton High school should be approved to take effect only if by the date of closure an agreement has been made under section 482(1) of the Education Act 1996 for the establishment of an Academy to replace Halton High school.

It is proposed to close Halton High School in order to enable an academy to be opened in the Halton High school buildings on 1 September 2010, subject to the signing of a funding agreement by the Secretary of State.

The sponsor for the proposed academy is the Ormiston Trust and the University of Chester. It is intended that the proposed academy will admit 180 pupils at age 11.