**Southwark Diocesan Board of Education**

*Developing Church of England Education*

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 Ref: ES/CP

 21 April 2021

Dear Robert and Kingston Chapter

**KINGSTON VA SECONDARY SCHOOL – RE RUN OF STATUTORY PROPOSAL**

With regards to the new school we shall be re-running the statutory proposal/consultation from this Friday 23 April to Friday 21 May due to the procedural challenge presented to Kingston Council by a particular organisation. Thank you for your support to date. I am sorry that, yet again, I am asking you to submit a short email/ letter of support in order to move this project forwards.

* Due to a procedural challenge presented to Kingston Council by one organisation on the day that the decision was going to be made by the Council Committee, following legal advice, it was agreed that the statutory proposal and representation period would be re-run
* 400 responses were received as part of the consultation process in January/February
* 66% supported the establishment of the new school
* 91% supported the establishment of the Specialist Resource Provision at the school (Social Communication Needs, including Autism)
* 66% supported the proposed admissions policy (i.e. 60 Foundation places and 120 Open places each year)
* There was strong support that the school would offer diversity of choice for parents as there is currently no Church of England Secondary school in the borough, as well as meeting the need for the growing demand for places in the borough.
* There was strong support for the location of the school in the central part of the borough where there is not sufficient provision at present.
* There was strong support for the school being co educational
* Those opposed to the school, on the whole, did not support Faith schools and did not respect their statutory place in our education system.

Please will you resubmit your letter/emails of support by Friday 21 May to Kingston Council via Mr Matthew Paul (matthew.paul@achievingforchildren.org.uk ) – Associate Director for School Place Planning for Kingston. Correspondence should be denoted: ‘Response to Proposed Kingston C of E Secondary School’.

There will not be an on line survey this time or further public meetings as all the information about the school has been shared to date and none of the details have changed.

Since the last consultation period the need for additional places in the borough has been highlighted further with some 158 pupils being unplaced this year. As you may be aware there are several large scale building developments planned in the area over the next few years which will create even more demand.

I imagine that this re-run may show more opposition from those against Faith schools so the more support letters/emails we have the better.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me should you require any further information at this stage.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support of our proposal.

With all best wishes



**Colin Powell (Lay Canon)**

### Diocese of Southwark