



Goldwyn School

6th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find enclosed a copy of the consultation document of Goldwyn School's proposal to re-designate the school from 11-16 years to 11-18 years, and to formally increase our overall student numbers to 195 (150 places for Key Stages 3 & 4 , 45 places for Key Stage 5).

It is important to note that Goldwyn School, having expanded some years ago to include Goldwyn Folkestone and Goldwyn Plus, has been operating at over 150 places for 2-3 years, so in terms of the numbers of students being educated there will be no actual change. The re-designation will simply be a formal recognition of these numbers for Key Stages 3 & 4. The further 45 places are to allow for the expansion of the school to include a Sixth Form.

As an outstanding school, Goldwyn has always been innovative and forward thinking in meeting the needs of SEMH students in Kent. Goldwyn has worked with the Local Authority over the years to enhance opportunities for SEMH students of all ages, from early years via the Specialist Teaching and Learning Service, through to mainstream secondary schools. In response to the growing need for education and training for post-16 SEMH students, we are now in a position to be able to extend our Goldwyn offer to include sixth form provision.

As you may be aware, Goldwyn Sixth Form College, which runs separately from the school, is already providing post-16 courses for a range of SEND learners. This proposal, if successful, will mean that the sixth form college will no longer be a separate institution but a part of the school. This creates a sustainable and secure model that can be enhanced over time.

For secondary-aged students it remains our intention to continue to prepare our Key Stage 4 students to transition in the usual way, to identified mainstream colleges and schools of their choice. We believe that successful inclusion within the wider world will stem from this experience, and attending local settings within student's own communities is vital to this.

It is important to note that after re-designation, the school will not operate an 11-18 'all-through' provision, but will continue to maintain a transition point at the end of year 11 via the annual review process. This will mean that, as at present, the vast majority of students will transition on to appropriate mainstream college or school courses. For the small number that may wish to undertake construction or motor vehicle courses, their applications for moving on to Goldwyn's sixth form may be considered for suitability as appropriate.

Goldwyn will be the only maintained SEMH School with a sixth form in Kent, and as such students with EHCP's will be able to apply from other schools. Students will have the opportunity to study construction and motor vehicle courses, with a strong emphasis on developing the skills needed to transition into mainstream college or employment.

It is an exciting development for Goldwyn and will undoubtedly provide unrivalled opportunities for many students in the years to come. I hope that you find the further information contained in the consultation document useful and that you are able support the re-designation of the school.

You can find out more by attending the drop-in session at Goldwyn School, Ashford, TN23 3BT on Monday 20th January 2020 between 4.00pm and 5.30pm and/or submit the Consultation Response Form.

Yours faithfully,

Charlotte Lewis
Principal, Goldwyn School



Principal: Mrs C. Lewis BA Hons PGCE, Advanced Diploma EBD

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