

Northumberland

County Council

HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Trajan Walk • Heddon-on-the Wall • Northumberland • NE15 0BJ

Telephone 01661 853350

www.heddon-school.co.uk twitter @HeddonSchool

Mr A Wheatley: Headteacher



Thursday 31st January 2019

Dear Parents,

Pele Trust update

As you will be aware, our school has been planning to form Pele Trust (a Multi Academy Trust) with a number of our partner schools for some time. The schools carried out concurrent stakeholder consultations in May-June 2017 after which the Governing Bodies of each school made a decision to move towards academy conversion. Each school was awarded an Academy Order (October 2017), however, the formation of Pele Trust has been delayed since due to a number of issues outside of our control, most notably the re-tendering of the new school and leisure complex in Ponteland.

The resolution of the new build situation and start of groundworks on site has been very welcome and this has enabled us to progress our plans for Pele Trust. **As such, I am very pleased to inform you that Pele Trust becomes official on Friday 1st February 2019.** We are very much looking forward to the next stage of development in the life of all the schools in our Multi Academy Trust as we commit to our agreed purpose as set out below:

To build a learning community, brought together by choice, that enables our schools to support and challenge each other to provide consistently outstanding education whilst offering a stable pathway for students, parents and staff

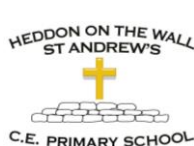
To have an influential voice and be instrumental in contributing to the development and enrichment of education in the north-east of England

Pele Trust Admissions arrangements

During our original stakeholder consultation we suggested that, as Pele Trust, we would review our Admissions arrangements in order to promote continuity of education for children within our group of schools, in order that we might fulfil our stated purpose of providing 'a stable pathway'.

In essence, we would be proposing that if you have a child in a Pele Trust Primary School they would be guaranteed a Secondary place at Ponteland High School, should they wish to accept it.

Please note that the earliest this new arrangement could be in place would be for entry in to Year 7 for September 2021, i.e. for those children currently in Year 4.



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart.

Colossians 3:23



We know that many parents are supportive of this plan as it provides them with certainty over the move from primary to secondary school. It is also hugely beneficial for our schools as it gives even greater emphasis to the work we will be doing to ensure that our transition programme has a positive impact on the students as they move seamlessly from primary to secondary school.

Pele Trust Directors have discussed the potential benefits and are therefore committed to formally reviewing the Trust-wide Admissions Policy later this academic year.

What else changes?

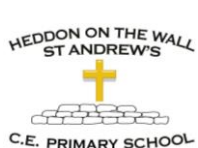
Parents may be wondering if there are other changes they can expect to see in the short term but please be assured that it is highly unlikely that students, staff or parents will notice any significant changes in the day to day operation of schools. The move to form Pele Trust will continue to see all of our schools operating with a high degree of independence enabling them to retain their uniqueness and individuality whilst also benefiting from the scale of operating as a single organisation.

I trust that this update has been informative.

If you have any further questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. A. Wheatley
Headteacher



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