

3rd December 2021



Dear Sir/Madam

Consultation on the proposal to add a Sixth Form to Light Hall School from September 2023

This letter is to invite your views or comments on the proposed addition of a Sixth Form to Light Hall School from September 2023.

We are proposing to open Sixth Form provision for a minimum of 100 students each year. We anticipate that, initially, the Sixth Form would be made up of Light Hall students who stay on after Year 11 to complete a level 3 course. The proposal is that from September 2023, Light Hall School becomes an 11- 18 academy, instead of an 11 – 16 academy.

The reasons for the proposal are rooted in our school family ethos of excellence and inclusivity. Light Hall School is a successful 11-16 mixed academy, located in the south of Solihull in the neighbourhood of Shirley, judged as “good” by Ofsted.

The governors of Light Hall School wish to extend the provision of its good quality education to our students post 16. Given the already significant and continuing increase in the secondary student population in Solihull, we foresee demand for post 16 provision within the borough increasing.

We propose to be able to meet this need, predominantly for our Light Hall students, from September 2023, thus enabling a cohort of Light Hall students to continue their education, well supported pastorally, in a school environment which is known to them and in close proximity to their homes. We are committed to serving the needs of our local community in Shirley.

Our intellectual capital is one of our greatest assets. Our staff are suitably qualified and skilled to be able to deliver level 3 courses. Developing our curriculum into Key Stage 5 will further enhance the good quality of education already on offer at Light Hall for students aged 11-16.

Our site is extensive and we believe that we have sufficient classroom and amenity space to be able to accommodate a Sixth Form of 200 students by September 2024, without the need to undertake additional capital building projects. Our proposal would not be to the detriment of our existing educational offer across years 7 to 11.

Our proposal to add a Sixth Form is considered to be a “significant change” and in line with guidance from the Department for Education we must consult with all those who could be affected by our proposed change. We are therefore seeking your views and comments on our proposal.

Consultation begins on Monday 6th December 2021 and continues until 12 noon on Wednesday 17th January 2022. Any comments, questions or suggestions about what is being proposed can be made using the consultation response form

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xLzYj3HO-kibzhzUqrFi6YyqpNwBJMtGreLw6vXs0ktURFpPUERMTEhKOVNCWTZZQINXMjk1TzRBRC4u>



Alternatively, you can call the school office on 0121 7443835 and a member of staff will get back to you to answer any questions you might have or you can send your comments directly to our dedicated email address: lhsixthformconsultation@lighthall.co.uk

As the consultation progresses, we will update a FAQ document on our website. Following the consultation period, which ends on the 17th January 2022, the governing body of Light Hall School will consider all consultation responses and make any modifications or changes to what we are proposing.

If governors decide to proceed with the proposal, then a business case will be submitted to the Regional Schools Commissioner, as required by the DfE guidance for making changes to an Academy School.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Annette Kimblin'.

Annette Kimblin
Headteacher