

Children and Young People Committee, 9 March 2015

Item 85: Proposed Amalgamation of Davigdor Infant School and Somerhill Junior School

Response from the Governing Body at Somerhill Junior School to the amalgamation consultation

Meeting: 3/3/15, 5pm

8/10 governors present

Response:

The governing body reviewed the consultation outcomes and responses. We discussed the comments made by stakeholders.

Any newly amalgamated school would retain the age phase specialisms that our children need, from foundation stage to Year 6. This would require the specialist teachers to continue to lead and teach in their areas of expertise. Any moves for staff across the phases would be by mutual agreement.

We would work with Davigdor governors to develop a leadership structure that is fit for purpose for the size of the school and is able to identify the needs of each child to ensure they exceed their potential.

We fully understand the concerns about budgetary implications over the next few years and will continue to plan for effective use of budget and resources to fully meet the needs of our children.

Stakeholders have recognised the benefits around transition and this has been one of the key reasons for supporting the amalgamation – the continuity of provision for children from 4 to 11.

The Somerhill headteacher is committed to the whole community of Davigdor and Somerhill and has demonstrated significant experience of managing change and improving outcomes. Ofsted (December 2014) recognised his outstanding leadership and how he has implemented schools values as curriculum drivers to promote the positive learning ethos.

Somerhill governors remain committed to the amalgamation and fully support the proposal.

