



Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

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Miss Sylvia Thomas – Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus

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Dear Parent/Carer

After much deliberation we have finally decided on the new name for our school from September 2018. There were many names in the frame and all were actively considered. We wanted to keep a historical connection and therefore the three names that were most popular were related to our school's former halls on this site, Broughton, Stanbridge and Wykham, which you may remember or have attended yourself. Brian Little, our local historian, kindly met with Rebecca Mileham (Chair of the Local Advisory Board) and I, and talked through the various ideas we had on the table. It was wonderful to talk to him about Banbury and its rich history. We will maintain this link via the name of our campus, which will continue as Banbury Aspirations Campus.

Our final choice, backed by the Aspirations Academies Trust Board members, is to rename our school **Wykham Park Academy**. There are several reasons for this. Wykham is a name still in daily use on our campus because of the wonderful theatre which both we and the community use for all sorts of events and it is the name of one of the roads that leads off Ruskin Road. The other two halls now have very different uses: Stanbridge is now a nursing home, of course, and Broughton is Space Studio Banbury. In addition, our fields back on to the ancient Salt Way with Wykham Lane beyond. Our campus is beautiful with lots of majestic trees around the whole site and therefore we felt that adding the name "Park" rather than "Hall" was the appropriate choice.

Our logo is now complete too and an image is shown below. The students had three proposals to choose from and overwhelmingly voted for the logo that we will be using from September 2018.



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The Student Council members have had several sessions looking at uniform and we have now chosen our new blazer design and colour. The majority of students from Year 7 – Year 10 have been measured for this and will get a free blazer for September 2018. We are now considering trousers and skirts as the students have a definite preference but we need to balance their ideas with cost for you as parents. Our key criteria for the skirts is that they are of a suitable length for girls of all ages and heights. We are actively debating the colour of the trousers, as again cost and access to different suppliers is important to us. We will give you a definitive uniform guide in the summer term.

'To be able to dream about the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams' Dr Russell J Quaglia



Aspirations Academies Trust
in association with Quaglia Institute

The Aspirations Academies Trust – Company Registration Number: 07867577
Chief Executive: Steve Kenning

Local governors and I have also held two school vision sessions with students asking them three very important questions:

What would you like your day to day experience at school to be?

How would you like our school to be viewed by the community?

How would you like school to prepare you for your future?

As always the students came back with lots of superb ideas and demonstrated pride in their school. It was also lovely to welcome parents of these students to these sessions – thank you for joining us.

We have gathered these thoughts together and combined them with ideas generated from a visioning session with staff. We have now shared these with all mentor groups so that every student in the school has an opportunity to contribute to our vision for the future. It is an exciting time and is generating so many important conversations. Students have been given the vote on our new school motto and there have been two mentor sessions devoted to choosing the words we feel best represent our school.

In the second vote last week students chose the motto suggested by a group of post 16 students. Our new motto from September 2018 onwards will be:

Pride, passion and progress

Please do get in touch if you would like to add any ideas to the process. We will keep you updated with everything we are doing over the next two terms after Easter.

Yours faithfully



Miss Sylvia Thomas
Principal of Banbury Aspirations Campus