

**Hereford Marches Federation of Academies
Sutton Primary Academy**

4th November 2019

The Trustees and CEO of The Herefordshire Marches Federation of Academies, along with the Sutton Governors would like to provide some context surrounding the expansion of Sutton Primary Academy over the past 12 years and open a consultation for a period of 4 weeks.

This local consultation will open on Monday, 4th November until Wednesday, 4th December 2019 at 12 noon.

If you would like to respond to this consultation, please send your comments to:

HMFA.CompanySecretary@hmfa.org.uk

or

HMFA Company Secretary
C/o Sutton Primary Academy
Bayley Way
Sutton St Nicholas.
Hereford
HR1 3SZ

Please ensure that your response reaches us by noon on **Wednesday, 4th December** at the latest.

Sutton Primary School moved into new premises in 2007 with 47 pupils. The new School had 4 classrooms, one dedicated to the Nursery and 3 classrooms to accommodate mixed year groups across the primary age range.

New leadership and the conversion to Academy as part the HMFA Multi Academy Trust, lead to a significant increase in Sutton's popularity, not only for pupils within the Village of Sutton, but also the wider community. There has been a steady increase in the number of pupils coming into the Reception class year on year, ultimately bringing us to the point where we have been able to move away from mixed year classes, towards a model of 7 classes, each with single year groups.

When the planning permission was originally approved for the new School build, it included permission for one additional classroom, anticipating the growth in pupil numbers. Bids to secure capital funding to enable us to build this additional classroom have, to date, been unsuccessful. However, we were able to reconfigure the ample space within the building allowing for more teaching space, without compromising the education of the pupils.

In more recent years, we have gained planning permission to add mobile classrooms at the back of the building, allowing us to free up areas around the school to use for nurture groups, 1:1 reading, confidential meetings etc.

Throughout this whole process we have had the interests of the pupils at the forefront of everything. At no point has there been any compromise to pupil welfare, their education or their school experience as a whole. Parents have been supportive and have welcomed the move away from mixed year classes towards a single form entry.

It is not our intention to take Sutton beyond a single year intake Academy. At full capacity the School will accommodate 210 pupils plus the pupils in Sutton Seedlings Nursery.

Pupil numbers currently stand at 189 to include the Nursery.