



Swaffham Hamond's High School

A Specialist Maths and Computing College



Maths &
Computing

'Respect, Learning, Pride'

28 June 2011

Dear Parents and Carers

Sixth Form Update

We are delighted to announce that from September 2012, **Dereham Sixth Form College** will be extending their post 16 provision to our **Swaffham Campus**. This will enable the college, which is currently heavily oversubscribed, to expand beyond its current limit of 450 students to ensure that many more young people in the mid-Norfolk region can access their high quality Sixth Form education.

This agreement was reached last week by the heads and governors of Dereham Neatherd, Dereham Northgate and Swaffham Hamond's High School. It will be subject to certain caveats including funding arrangements agreed by the governors (see over).

The Dereham Sixth Form College Swaffham Campus will be situated in what is now our 'C Block', which currently houses our Sixth Form and Humanities provision. This seven classroom building was specifically designed and constructed as a post 16 site and is located apart from our main school with its own facilities.

The campus will be managed entirely by **Dereham Sixth Form College** staff, with some teaching offered by appropriately qualified and experienced teachers from Swaffham Hamond's High School. It will aim to exactly replicate the Dereham experience in terms of the tutorial system, advice and guidance, enrichment activities, induction and activities weeks and will be subject to its rigorous standards of quality assurance.

It is hoped that there will be a core offer of between ten and fifteen A level subjects taught on the **Swaffham Campus** with students travelling to Dereham to access other courses and / or staff travelling to the campus to teach some specialist subjects. Students will continue to apply to **Dereham Sixth Form College** in the normal way. They will be allocated to the campus best suited geographically and in terms of subjects selected. The college currently offers a full suite of thirty five courses.

I am sure that you will agree with me that this represents an outstanding opportunity for the young people of Swaffham and the surrounding area. I would like to thank our governors and the governors and headteachers of Dereham Northgate and Dereham Neatherd for all of their work and commitment in working towards this excellent opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Bailey
Headteacher



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Caveats to the proposal agreed by Dereham governors:

- The receipt of satisfactory assurances from the Local Authority and YPLA (funding body for sixth forms) concerning travel costs and the provision of such transitional funding as may be necessary to ensure that Neatherd High School, Northgate High School and Dereham Sixth Form College do not suffer financially as a result of the creation of a Swaffham campus
- All schools agreeing to sign a binding Service Level Agreement to protect their positions
- Students from Northgate and Neatherd receiving priority of admission to the Dereham College site for courses offered there
- That the above caveats be included in all public statements about the proposal
- That the Headteachers of Neatherd, Northgate and the Director of the College present reports to their respective governing bodies:
 - In July 2011 on progress
 - In September 2011, on their assessment of whether the project remains viable for a 2012 start having regard to financial and other key requirements