**Notes of consultation event held on 9th November 2018, at Swaffham CE Junior Academy**

Attendance

2 members of public; parent and governor

Sharon Short, Headteacher, Swaffham CE Junior Academy

Emily McMillen, Deputy Headteacher, Swaffham CE VC Infant School

Eric Clarke, Head of Admissions

Jamie Tolman, Capital Projects Officer

Gavin Cowley, Adviser Partnership Development

Caroline Money, School Organisation Manager

Caroline Money welcomed everyone to the consultation event and introduced the panel.

Caroline set out the proposal for both schools to become primary school from September 2020, the context for the proposal and the timescales for consultation.

Mrs Short explained the benefits for the Junior Academy School proposal to become a primary school as;

* The importance of reducing the number of changes of school for children, which can affect children for a significant time
* The opportunities for the school to improve the child’s education journey
* Looking forward for opportunities of the older children working with younger children.

Mrs McMillen explained the benefits for the Infant School proposal to become a primary school as;

* Both schools work well together already, but proposal provides choice for parents.

The following areas were discussed during the consultation event;

* Process for children in Yr 3 in September 2020, to choose a school. Parents will be invited to make an application for a Year 3 place, with upto 3 preferences.
* Clarification that teachers in both schools have qualifications and experience of teaching in both Key Stage 1 (infants) and Key Stage 2 (Juniors)
* Both schools will have building works undertaken to ensure that they have space and appropriate accommodation for primary school children. The Junior School will need a new block of 4 classrooms to be built, as well as internal refurbishment. There will be a consultation event on the proposed plans and it was agreed, this would be open to Infant School parents to attend. The Junior School building work does not need to be completed by September 2020, however the reception classes will be completed by then. The Infant School does not need significant building work, it will mainly be internal work.
* Confirmation that the Junior School is looking to return to single Year Groups from September 2019 and will be looking to base the early years with Key Stage 1.
* Concern that stakeholders had been involved in the consultation e.g. Town Council, to ensure this linked into the Swaffham Neighbourhood Plan. Confirmed that proposal sent out widely, including local schools, councillors, MP, early years providers.
* Concern that the new housing may not provide the numbers of children for the growth in schools. Confirmation that the County Council work with the District Council to monitor the build rate of new housing and has a formulae for calculating how many children are likely from 100 houses. This estimates there will approximately be a further 30 children per year group in Swaffham, in the future.

Caroline Money thanked everyone for attending and encouraged people to complete the consultation forms by 13th December 2018.