

Our ref: SH/SFF/BIG2
Tel no: 0300 300 4383
Date: 24th January 2022

Dear parent / carer,

I am writing to inform you that a paper is due to be discussed at Central Bedfordshire Council's Overview and Scrutiny and Executive Committees, detailing the feedback from the public consultation on proposed changes to schools in Biggleswade and the surrounding area.

This is part of the <u>Schools for the Future programme</u>, which is an ambitious, long-term programme to raise education standards in Central Bedfordshire by ensuring the area has the right schools, in the right places, delivering the best education. Part of this is the move to the two-tier model of education.

The paper, which is available <u>on Central Bedfordshire Council's website</u> along with the <u>consultation results</u>, will be considered by our Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee tomorrow (January 25th), and you will be able to <u>watch this public meeting online</u> from 10am.

The paper will then be considered by Central Bedfordshire Council's Executive Committee on February 8th, and also published on the Council website and available to view five clear days ahead of the public meeting.

<u>The consultation</u> ran for 14 weeks and closed on September 28th and, having taken the time to consider the feedback, the paper recommends that the Executive are asked to:

- note and consider the Have Your Say consultation response
- authorise a move to statutory notice, for the closer of Potton Middle School and the change of age range of Potton Lower School to become a primary school for September 2023; utilising the buildings and infrastructure of both the Potton Lower and Potton Middle sites as far as required.
- Agree to receive a further report on the model and timescale for the Biggleswade cluster of school's transition to a two-tier system of education, taking into account the revised pupil growth forecast, outcome of the consultation and indicative budgets.

The paper also includes the <u>full analysis report of the public consultation</u> held in summer 2021.

To keep up to date with the latest information, including next steps, on the Schools for the Future programme, go to https://www.schoolsforthefuture.co.uk/.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Ferguson
Interim Director of Children's Services