

WIRRAL COUNCIL**EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006****PROPOSAL TO CEASE TO MAINTAIN PARK HIGH SCHOOL AND ROCK FERRY HIGH SCHOOL**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Wirral Council as the education authority ("the Authority"), Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 8ED intends to discontinue the following schools on 31st December 2010:

- Park High School, Park Road South, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH43 4UY
- Rock Ferry High School, Ravenswood Avenue, Rock Ferry, Wirral, CH42 4NY

All of the statutory consultation requirements relating to this proposal have been complied with.

The closure of these two schools is linked to the establishment of the University Academy of Birkenhead, to be based on both existing school sites on the opening date. The University Academy of Birkenhead is intended to provide 750 places for boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 16, with an admission number of 150.

Former pupils from both predecessor schools on roll at 31st December 2010 are guaranteed a place at the University Academy of Birkenhead. Pupils may transfer to any local secondary school subject to the availability of places and the admission arrangements published in the Authority's information booklet for parents.


The Sanderling Unit for 40 pupils with statements of special educational needs currently based at Rock Ferry High School will become part of the Academy. The Academy will provide 40 resourced places for pupils with statements of special educational needs.

The proposals will have no effect on transport arrangements until the Academy's transition to the single former Park High site, which is local to the Rock Ferry site and will have minimal impact on transport for those pupils transferring site. Applications for school transport will be considered on the basis of the Authority's school transport policy published in the Authority's information booklet for parents. The University Academy will also be expected to complete a School Travel Plan.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from the Review website;

www.wirral-mbc.gov.uk/PrimaryPlaces/BirkenheadandBebington.asp or on paper or CD-ROM by writing to the address below.

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Howard Cooper, Director of Children's Services, Hamilton Building, Conway Street, Birkenhead, CH41 4FD.



Dated this 9th day of June 2010

Explanatory notes

- 1) The purpose of this notice is to close Park High School and Rock Ferry High School in order to establish an Academy. The sponsors of the Academy are the University of Chester (lead); University of Liverpool, Birkenhead Sixth Form College, Wirral Metropolitan College and Wirral Council.
- 2) The Authority's transport policy provides free transport for pupils whose parents receive the free school meal allowance or the maximum level of Working Tax Credit as follows:
 - to one of the three nearest appropriate schools between 2 and 6 miles of the home address.
 - or to the nearest school between 2 and 15 miles from the home address for a journey to school based on religious preference.It also provides free transport for pupils who live more than 3 miles from the nearest appropriate school. Appropriate means academic nature or religious character.
- 3) The Authority's information booklets for parents are available on request from the Children and Young People's Department by calling 0151 606 2000 during office hours, or on-line at:
www.wirral-abc.gov.uk/admissions/
- 4) Any decision on closure of these two schools is conditional upon receipt of Secretary of State approval for the establishment of the new Academy under section 482(1) of the Education and Inspections Act.