



Cowes Primary School

Right to Learn Right to be Safe Right to be Respected

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Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all we would like to thank you for all your words of kindness and support at this extremely difficult time for everyone. As you are no doubt aware, the school has been named for closure again by the Local Authority.

After being named in the report yesterday, we want to reassure you all that we are here for you during this uncertain time and will continue to provide the best for your children.

All schools are acutely aware of the significant structural issues affecting the Island education system and the necessity to address surplus school places to ensure the highest quality teaching and learning environments. However, this does not lessen the impact of the devastating news on those schools identified for potential closure, including Cowes Primary.

We recognise the complexities and challenges involved in managing school place planning on the Island. Our goal now is to work constructively with the local authority. It is important to note that, at this stage, the council's Cabinet is only being asked to approve a consultation period, not to make any final decisions regarding closures or changes. As you may remember from last year, any final decisions are a long way off and have to be agreed by the Cabinet.

Should the proposals proceed to a full consultation, due to commence on 20th September, we strongly encourage our school community to participate. Your opinions and feedback will be crucial in shaping the future of our children and education, alongside the response that will be made by us, on behalf of the school. The key information that we recommend you consider in any representations can be found in the Cabinet Paper, link below:

<https://iow.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g1884/Public%20reports%20pack%2012th-Sep-2024%2017.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

We signpost you to pages 306 to 309 in Appendix 2, that specifically focuses on West Cowes.

Regarding our application to join The Ormiston Academy Trust (OAT), we have informed them of the news and will update you as soon as we have further information.



Cowes Choristers



In the meantime, as we start the new academic year, we remain fully committed to the children, their education and the entire school community.

Kind regards,

Sue Cox



Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body

Headteacher