

Newall Green High School
Greenbrow Road
Wythenshawe
Manchester
M23 2SX



t:0161 413 8546 f:0161 437 6125
newallgreenhigh.manchester.sch.uk

14th January 2020

Newall Green High School: Listening Period

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to you about the future of Newall Green High School. Pupil numbers at the school have been very low for a number of years and this has impacted on the viability of the school. Local demand for places at the school is predicted to remain low for the foreseeable future. After a great deal of consideration the Prosper Learning Trust has asked the Department for Education (DfE) to consider the closure of the school.

I can confirm that the Secretary of State has agreed to the closure of the school, subject to a Listening Period being held to gather views of stakeholders. The Listening Period will allow stakeholders to find out more about the proposal and presents an opportunity for them to express their views on the proposal and how the closure will be managed.

The proposal:

The proposal, which we have agreed with the Department for Education, is that Newall Green High School will close for current students in Years 7, 8 and 9 at the end of the 2019/20 academic year (August 2020). The Trust and the Local Authority will work together to ensure that pupils in current Years 7, 8 and 9 are transferred to other school places for September 2020. Pupils in current Year 10 will remain at Newall Green during 2020/21 to allow them to complete their exams at the end of Year 11 at the school. The school will then close fully at the end of the 2020/2021 academic year (August 2021).

The current Year 11 students will be unaffected by the proposal and they will continue their education at Newall Green High School.

Parents and carers will be given sufficient time to consider their options. Face to face support will be on offer for those families who need help with the decision. Parents and carers of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for Special Educational Needs and Disability will be supported by the School and the Local Authority through the formal review process to find an appropriate school placement.

We are particularly saddened that this is happening at a time when the staff and school leadership have made great strides in improving the teaching and learning for children. Our recent Ofsted Monitoring visits and the Regional Schools Commissioner recognise the positive contribution made towards improving the school and the outcomes for children.

SUCCESS

TOLERANCE

RESPECT

INDEPENDENCE

VISION

EXCELLENCE

PROSPERE LEARNING TRUST

Registered in England and Wales number 10872612. Registered Office: Piper Hill School, Firbank Road, Wythenshawe, Manchester, M23 2YS

What will happen next?

The views of parents, students, staff and the local community are being sought between 14th January 2020 and 11th February 2020. All views will be considered by the Trust and will be shared with the DfE for the Secretary of State to consider. An online Feedback form is available on the school website at www.newallgreenhigh.manchester.sch.uk

Paper Forms are available from the school reception, and should be returned to, the school reception.

As part of the listening period process there will be meetings with staff, governors and parents from school as appropriate. Meetings for parents and other stakeholders will be held at Newall Green High School on:

- Parents / carers of Year 9 students: Tuesday 21st January 2020 from 3.30pm to 5pm.
- Parents / carers of Year 10 students: Tuesday 21st January 2020 from 6pm to 7.30pm.
- Parents / carers of Year 7 students: Wednesday 22nd January 2020 from 3.30pm to 5pm.
- Parents / carers of Years 8 students: Wednesday 22nd January 2020 from 6pm to 7.30pm.
- Parent / carers of Y11 students (or any parent / carer unable to make previous meetings): Tuesday 28th January 2020 from 3.30pm to 5pm.
- Other stakeholders: Tuesday 28th January 2020 from 6pm to 7.30pm.

Please be assured that, whilst the next few weeks and months will be challenging, every step taken will be for the benefit of our school community. Your child will have a school place to go to if the final decision to close the school is taken. We expect a decision to be taken just before the end of February 2020, and will communicate the outcome to you as soon as the decision is made.

We undertake to listen and answer your questions and concerns over the following 4 weeks; information will be available on the school website and at the school reception.

Can I thank you in advance for making the time to engage with this important issue.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J. Andrews
Chair of Prospere Learning Trust and Chair of NGHS School Improvement Board