

15 June 2018

Dear Parent,

Selective Schools Expansion Fund

The Department for Education is making available an opportunity for selective schools across the country to expand. The aim is to increase access to, and participation in, a grammar school education. This is part of the government's strategy to promote social mobility. The increased places will be available for all children, but with a particular emphasis on those who experience disadvantage.

You will know from the media that this strategy is controversial. We cannot speak for the whole sector, but we believe that the Queen Mary's Schools have a proud record of opening up exciting new possibilities for the young people of our town. That is why the Mercian Trust will be bidding for funds with a proposal to expand our two Walsall selective schools: Queen Mary's High School and Queen Mary's Grammar School. Bids are invited by DfE for submission on 18th July and since the proposal includes changes to both schools' admissions procedures we are consulting widely to gather views from a broad range of stakeholders.

In summary our proposals are:

For Queen Mary's Grammar School

- 150 additional pupil places (30 per year group, starting with Y7 in 2020) and 90 additional sixth-form places
- Additional classrooms and additional dining space

For Queen Mary's High School

- 150 additional pupil places (30 per year group, starting with Y7 in 2020)
- Additional classrooms and laboratories

We are interested to hear your views on our proposals as a parent of a child in one of the two Queen Mary's schools. We would welcome your contribution to shaping our plans. Accordingly, included here is the link to the Mercian Trust website where further details are set out including an opportunity to complete a survey where you can comment on each of the parts of our proposals. <https://www.themerciantrust.org/>

There are to be two public meetings where interested parties can make their views known. The dates of these are Tuesday 26th June 5pm - 6.30pm at Queen Mary's Grammar School and Thursday 28th June 4.30pm - 6pm at Queen Mary's High School.

We welcome all comments and views on our plans and will include them in a formal consultation report which will be submitted to the DfE as part of our application.

Yours Sincerely



Timothy Swain
CEO Mercian Trust

t : +44 (0) 1922 720696 w: www.themerciantrust.org
e: tim.swain@themerciantrust.org 
@TheMercianTrust

