



## Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy

Tuesday 31 October 2017

Dear Parents,

As you will probably know, since Ark Paddington Green joined the Ark network we have formed close working links with King Solomon Academy. We share some specialist teachers, for instance, and hold joint training sessions. Both schools have benefited significantly from this collaboration and we feel that now is the right time to take the collaboration further. With this goal in mind, I am writing to you to let you know that we are proposing to bring King Solomon Academy and Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy together, to create one combined and expanded school – located across two sites.

King Solomon Academy is widely acknowledged as one of the best schools in the country and Ark Paddington Green as a rapidly improving one. I am pleased with the significant progress that Ms Deeks, Head of School, and the teachers at Ark Paddington Green have achieved. Students at both schools have made exceptional progress in the last year and we believe that there are exciting opportunities to continue these improvements within a cohesive, all-through approach. We believe, that long-term, all the students we serve will experience an even more excellent education than they already do at present.

As part of these plans, we will improve the buildings and outdoor space at both locations with significant capital investment. Combining the two schools will mean that Nursery to Year 4 students will be taught at the current Paddington Green site and then they will progress on to Year 5 and beyond at the King Solomon site. Creating a single, larger school will enable us to provide high quality facilities for every age group, making best use of the space and buildings across the two sites. The younger children will benefit from specialist accommodation and significantly improved outdoor facilities and playgrounds at their site; at the current King Solomon site, the proposal will enable an increase in secondary intake, and provide a separate and high quality 6<sup>th</sup> form space. This will result in a broader and better curriculum for all our students.

The governing bodies at both Ark Paddington Green Primary and King Solomon academies – in partnership with Westminster Council (who will fund the building works) – have agreed with the proposals to combine the schools. If the proposals go ahead as planned, the schools will join together in September 2019, forming a combined all-through King Solomon Academy with three forms of entry in year groups Nursery through to Year 7, and eventually, as the existing students grow older, all the way through to Year 13.

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**Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy**

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If these proposals were to go ahead, current Ark Paddington Green students in Years 5 and below would therefore, in September 2019, automatically become part of King Solomon Academy, thus enjoying an automatic place in Year 7 and an-all through education through to 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

I am sure you will have questions and comments about the proposal. We will be hosting an information coffee morning on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 8.45am – 10.15am**. Please come along to learn more and to ask any questions you may have. We very much look forward to welcoming you to the school.

We will also be arranging open events at both sites to allow each community of parents the chance to visit the other site, see the facilities, and provide further feedback on the proposals. The Open Morning for current Ark Paddington Green parents to understand the new site will take place at King Solomon Academy at **8.45am to 10.15am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**. The visit will include a tour and an opportunity to share feedback about the proposals. Please come to the main entrance to King Solomon Academy on Penfold Street, which is a short walk from Ark Paddington Green.

We want your feedback on the proposals, including how to develop them to make sure we end up with the best possible education for all our students now and in the future.

I am very proud of what we have achieved at both schools and truly believe that joining King Solomon and Ark Paddington Green together is in the best educational interests of students at both schools. My sincere thanks to all of you for your ongoing contributions and support and I look forward to hearing from you at information events.

Yours Sincerely,



Max Haimendorf  
Principal King Solomon Academy  
Executive Principal, Ark Paddington Green Primary Academy