



## The Governors of Cannon Lane First School

Cannonbury Avenue  
Pinner  
Middlesex  
HA5 1TS

17<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Ms Catherine Doran,  
Corporate Director, Children and Families,  
London Borough of Harrow,  
PO Box 57  
Station Road  
Harrow HA1 2UJ

Dear Ms Doran,

### **Re: Cannon Lane First School (4-7) : Governing Body Decision – Amalgamation**

Following the recent consultation with the parents, pupils, staff and other stakeholders the governing body has now reviewed the feedback received, at our meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2013, having discussed the feedback and the implications for the children and staff as well as the potential impact on teaching and learning the governing body decided in a unanimous vote that it was in the best interests of the children that both schools should amalgamate. Therefore it is the recommendation of the First School governing body that both schools should merge.

We have considered the evidence and we feel that amalgamation would produce an enhanced learning environment for all children in both schools based on the following reasons:

- Transition between Years 2/3 (KS1/2) would be less stressful for children as they would no longer have to adapt to a 'different' school, causing less disruption and anxiety.
- Consistency in terms of leadership, expectation, teaching practice and standards would mean children experience the same ethos and programs of study throughout KS1 and 2.
- Staff would be able to transfer and teach across the curriculum stages and this would enhance CPD as well as enabling the sharing of 'best practice' from both schools, (as an example CLFS have just been awarded Flagship status for Inclusion). Also the potential opportunity for succession planning would be improved.
- The evidence from schools in the borough that have previously amalgamated, has on the whole impacted positively on the teaching and learning in those schools, improving outcomes for children.
- We believe that a strong school with excellent strategic leadership is in the best interests of the community it serves and we are committed to meeting the needs of our children and exploiting their full potential.

The governors would like me to express their request for a speedy decision as we feel this will give us time to plan and therefore be in the best interests of the children in both schools.

We look forward to hearing from you shortly with a decision regarding amalgamation and the future of our school.

Kind regards

**Karen**

Karen Scott Gallagher  
Chair of Governors  
Cannon Lane First School (4-7)