



King Edmund Community School

Specialist Business & Sports College

Aspiring to excellence in a supportive learning environment

Headteacher:
Roger Gilbert M.Ed, NPQH

Please Quote Ref: RSG/RJG/lmh

Sundridge Park
Yate
South Gloucestershire
BS37 4DX
Tel: (01454) 862626
Fax: (01454) 862627
Email: administration@king-edmund.com
Website: www.king-edmund.com

January 2008

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

Academy Status Proposal for The Ridings High School and King Edmund Community School

We are writing to inform you that the Government has approached The Ridings High School and King Edmund Community School with a view to becoming independent Academies.

This proposal is part of a Government Pathfinder initiative where The Ridings High School, as the Lead Educational Sponsor, and King Edmund Community School will seek to raise educational standards and broaden opportunities for students. This new school structure with both schools becoming independent Academies will operate within a Federation. This means both Academies, while independent, will operate under an overarching Executive Governing Body and one Executive Principal.

The concept of creating a Federation between two independent Academies in South Gloucestershire is supported by the Government, the Local Authority, both Governing Bodies, Higher Education and Industry. We believe this provides a unique opportunity to develop and initiate an educational direction for our schools in the 21st Century. With the raising of standards at the heart of this agenda, the benefits to students, irrespective of their ability or background, will be considerable.

The process to move to Academy Status will take approximately 18 months, during which parents/guardians, students and other key stakeholders will be consulted and regularly updated through a variety of means.

To be invited by the Government and have the support of South Gloucestershire Local Authority for this initiative is certainly a great honour. We are sure you will agree that this is a wonderful opportunity for both schools, our communities and in particular, our students. Further information can be obtained from each school's website at www.ridingshigh.org and www.king-edmund.com.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Gilbert
Headteacher
King Edmund Community School

Dr R S Gibson
Headteacher
The Ridings High School