

# Forster Park



# Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Michelle Fenniche  
Headteacher: Mark Gale

20<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Ms Fuller and Mr Henaughan

As the Chair of Governors for the Oakbridge Federation, I write to change our PAN for Forster Park Primary School. This decision has not been taken lightly and is an informed decision, whilst planning financially for the next 3 years.

Forster Park became a 3 form entry Primary school in September 2015 on the request of the Local Authority because of the need for additional primary school places. However, so far we have not been able to fill all our available places. We are trying very hard to promote the school to become a first choice for families close to us but this takes time. When they visit parents are hugely impressed by our wonderful buildings and facilities but many are coming to us because they have not been given their first choice school and they move their child as soon as a vacancy occurs there. This of course is hugely disruptive for the children and for the school. This term alone we have welcomed 24 children and lost 34.

We had previously taken a bulge year for our current Year 3 cohort. We have 36 spaces in Year 3 and 3 open classes, which is financially unsustainable moving forward. We need to be able to condense our current Year 3 cohort, through to Year 4 as 2 classes, knowing that we will not be directed by the LA to take more than 60 children in 2017/2018 Year 4 cohort. We also have 28 spaces in reception this year, which again causes financial concern moving forward.

Due to the amount of vacancies throughout Forster Park, we would request that the school reverts to a two form entry school as of 2018/2019 and that this is taken into consideration in your consultation and determination process for 2018/2019.

The Governors would of course be open to considering bulge classes if and when the need arises in future years, as we aware that we have the capacity within the school.

Yours sincerely,

Kris Hibbert  
Chair of Governors  
Oakbridge Federation

