



PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

1 September 2012

Dear Stakeholders,

Stockwell Park High School Academy is now PLATANOS COLLEGE

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the links we currently have with all our stakeholders.

We value the sense of community and continuity that a supportive relationship with other organisations promotes.

The Governing Body has taken the decision to change the name of the school as part of our next phase of development as an academy.

There are good reasons to change the name of the school at this time: converting to academy status as an Ofsted-designated Outstanding School with a completely new building and re-modelled campus seem to point us in a new and exciting direction.

We wanted the name of the school to be special: unique if possible, yet rooted in some way to the positive transformation that the school has undergone over the past twelve years.

During extensive consultations with parents, carers, pupils, staff, governors and friends of the school in the first few months of this year, many ideas emerged.

There was a strong preference for a name which could combine the school's character, aspirations and ethos with some link to the geographical context of the site.

Reflecting on the site on which the school has stood for half a century, we thought about the ground, the earth and the physical, historical and ecological features of our location.

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In 2007, before the new school had started construction, the school had received a tree survey carried out by arboriculturalists. There are fourteen species of tree on the site, the largest group being plane trees.

The ideas associated with trees, growth, earth, roots, change, development and transformation would seem to be appropriate for a community of young people engaged in education. If the school provides sound educational roots, the pupils will flourish physically, academically and spiritually.

These ideas led us to the name Platanos, a Greek word for ‘a grove of plane trees’, which expresses simply and clearly the place where our school is located.

Platanos College (pronounced with the three syllables having equal emphasis, Pla – tan – os), has fewer syllables than *platanos academy*, and is easier to say. It has a straightforward, dignified sound and an easily memorised spelling. To the best of our knowledge there is no other school in the UK with this name.

I am very pleased to announce that the new name of our school is **Platanos College**, effective from September 2012.

There will be no changes to the existing school uniform. The school badge will stay the same, the school colours and all items of clothing and kit remain unchanged. No expense to parents will be incurred by this change of name.

We hope that you will welcome and embrace this new name and thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours sincerely,

Judette Tapper
Headteacher

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