



St Andrew's School
Eastbourne

Charities amalgamate

After careful discussion the charities of Eastbourne College and St Andrew's School have announced their intention to amalgamate. The schools have considered the strategic advantages of such a development and their governing bodies feel that now is the right time to consolidate the two charities into one and strengthen and guarantee the long term future of first class independent education for children of all ages in the town of Eastbourne and beyond. The two schools will operate under one board of governors which will be made up of representatives from the existing governing bodies.

Collaboration between the two schools has always been extremely close, but to date there have been no formal financial or governance links between them. The amalgamated entity will enable carefully targeted capital investment in the improvement of facilities of both schools. The proximity of the two sites will enable many opportunities for facilities to be shared. As well as the many educational benefits that will flow, the two schools will benefit from sharing expertise and resources in critical areas such as ICT, bursarial functions, Human Resources, compliance to the ever-growing regulation that applies to schools, marketing and the maintenance of buildings and grounds. Governors of the two schools believe there will be considerable mutual benefit for both schools and that children from 2 to 18 will be the primary beneficiaries of this newly formed partnership.

The schools will continue to operate independently: each with its own head responsible to the overarching governing body through a joint finance committee and two general purpose committees – one for each school.

St Andrew's will continue to be a prep school that prepares girls and boys for Common Entrance and Scholarship entrance to a range of senior schools; Eastbourne College will continue to recruit from a very wide range of feeder schools. The emphasis on the right school for the right child will be paramount in both schools and the promotion of parental choice will still be a keystone.

Jeremy Griffith, Headmaster of St Andrew's, had advised his board of governors in September of this year of his wish to retire at the end of the summer term in 2010. The governors decided that the search for his replacement should be conducted in the full knowledge of the intended new structure. The search will begin in the New Year.

Wednesday 9 December 2009