

25 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

National Falling Primary Pupil Numbers

We understand that the wellbeing and education of your children and their future in our schools is of the utmost importance to you, and we wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge the letter that Wokingham Borough Council has recently issued to all parents.

The decrease in pupil numbers is something affecting many schools, not only locally but nationally, as a result of declining birth rates and shifting demographics. We recognise that this can create uncertainty and concern for families, and has given some parents in some areas the perception that a school is not 'good' due to places being available.

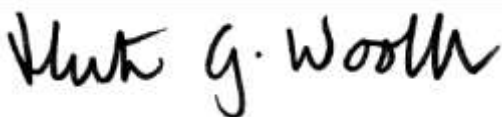
The Keys Academy Trust has been acutely aware of the falling birth rates, and we want to assure you that our pupil number projections have enabled us to work proactively and collaboratively with our schools, over several years, to develop strategies that will ensure we continue to provide high-quality education and ensure a sustainable future for our community of learners. These strategies include adjusting our capacity to align with the current demand (which has already resulted in changes at The Coombes C of E Primary School, St Sebastian's C of E Primary School, St Nicholas C of E Primary School and Earley St Peter's C of E Primary School), while continuing to invest in resources and teaching staff to maintain the high standards we all expect.

Unlike maintained schools in the local authority, The Keys Academy Trust as the admissions authority for your child's school determines the number of places to be allocated to each school. This allows the Trust to maximise the efficient use of resources and ensure long term sustainability for each of our schools.

You can help your child's school and our Trust by being an advocate for our schools and recommending prospective parents to visit the upcoming opening mornings in order to maximise the number of pupils attending our schools. This will be a benefit to all of our pupils in all of our schools.

Thank you for your continued trust and support in The Keys Academy Trust. Together, we are committed to ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to thrive in an environment that supports their growth, learning, and wellbeing.

Yours sincerely,



Hester Wooller
CEO, The Keys Academy Trust

"Unlocking the Future"

The Keys Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity registered in England and Wales under company number 10818575 with registered office at The Keys Academy Trust, Earley St Peter's C of E Primary School, Church Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire RG6 1EY. The Keys Academy Trust is a business name of the company

