



## **Building Community, Inspiring Learning**

Executive Headteacher – Mr Sean McKeown

8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

### **Re. Silverwood School Rowde Campus Build Project**

We wanted to update you regarding the major build project at the Silverwood Rowde campus. The planning application was submitted in July and this went to the Strategic Planning Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> October. We are delighted that the proposals were approved which will extend the existing campus to provide much needed SEND school places in a high-quality provision for 350 pupils by September 2023. A further phase of the programme will deliver 50 more places for Silverwood by September 2024.

We have been very grateful to have had the involvement of pupils, parents and carers, staff and governors from across all three Silverwood sites, and the local community, in shaping the designs for the new build. Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended a workshop, responded to a survey, or shared their views via e-mail, and of course to the pupils for all their ideas about what they wanted to see in the new building. All your input gave the architects a real insight into the needs of our pupils and how the building should work in practice.

The proposals include creating a "school within a school" feel with a community of small teaching clusters that will provide a range of specialist teaching spaces, therapeutic support, and quiet dining. There will also be a hydrotherapy pool, a new all-weather sport pitch, new playing fields, landscaping, and ecological enhancements. A key consideration of the design has been to develop proposals that are sensitive to the beautiful countryside setting and protect the biodiversity of the site, for example with badger gates and bat corridors.

The main contractors for the build, Willmott Dixon, are planning sessions with the Silverwood team to get pupils even more involved. This autumn, pupils will be experiencing virtual tours of the new school as well as learning about building site safety and the different key trades. They will learn about the different jobs and machinery, and share their experiences of building work from home and from when they are out and about. Pupils will learn about the construction process and how digital technology is used.

**Silverwood School**

[www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk) : Rowde, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 2QQ.

**Co-operation ~ Respect ~ Perseverance ~ Kindness ~ Honesty ~ Courage**



Further information and the latest updates about the build project can be found on the schools' new website: <https://www.silverwood.wilts.sch.uk/>

Yours sincerely

Sean McKeown  
Executive Headteacher  
Silverwood School

Alison Enever  
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Wiltshire Council

**Silverwood School**

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