



Mrs Lisa Telling
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Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update you on our collaboration with Katesgrove Primary School, which started in May 2015 as an agreement that was designed to be mutually beneficial for both schools.

This arrangement has resulted in many benefits for both Southcote and Katesgrove, improving learning outcomes for pupils together with opportunities for teaching staff to share their wealth of joint knowledge and experience. Shared staff meetings, training days and visits across both schools have enabled us to learn and grow together, while each maintaining our schools' unique individual identities.

Working across both schools has given me great insight into what we are doing so well, as well as some ideas of how we could do even better. Both Southcote and Katesgrove are led by highly experienced Heads of School who have been invaluable in helping us to progress together in the best way for each school.

Our strength as two schools working together means we can streamline costs, attract high quality staff and share resource, facilities and services.

Our pupils are also working closely with their Katesgrove friends, with both School Councils planning a visit to each other's school. I'm looking forward to hearing what they learn from each other!

Although we are working closely together, it is still very important that each school retains its individual character and identity, and that we do not merge these. I am very proud of Southcote's identity and heritage, and will continue to work hard to ensure that we maintain everything that makes us so special.

As our partnership has been so successful over the last two years, I am delighted to confirm that this agreement will continue for a further year.

I remain firmly committed to the continuing success of both schools, and both Governing Bodies agree that moving forward together in this way will be in the interests of both schools.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Kind regards

Mrs L Telling
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