



Joint statement from Beaumont School and Hertfordshire County Council

Update on additional temporary allocation of places at Beaumont School

Hertfordshire County Council and Beaumont School have agreed that the school will offer additional places for this September, bringing the total number of places available for the academic year 2024/2025 to 240. This decision has been made jointly following discussions with the Department for Education. This arrangement was confirmed at a meeting of the school's trustees yesterday (Thursday 7 March), following Hertfordshire County Council's agreement to provide revenue funding to support these places for this year (24/25).

Richard Roberts, Leader of Hertfordshire County Council, said:

"I understand the disappointment of parents who applied for places at Beaumont School for September this year but were not successful. Allocating school places is always a complex issue and the outcomes are determined by lots of factors, not just distance. I'm pleased we've worked with the school, including consultation with the Department for Education, to come to an agreement for this year. I'm also pleased that every child living in the parish of St Albans has been allocated a place at a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' school within the city. We will continue to work with the school to be absolutely clear of the plan for the next academic school intake in 2025, and as they develop longer term plans with the Department for Education."

Martin Atkinson, Head Teacher at Beaumont school, said:

"Beaumont School is an intrinsic part of the community in the east of St Albans, which it has served for over 80 years. Following discussions with the Department for Education and the County Council's agreement to provide revenue funding to support additional places, we are delighted that we can continue to offer outstanding opportunities to more students in our local area. This is consistent with our ongoing strategic priorities and our long-term commitment to the local community. We look forward to working with the County Council and the Department for Education to secure a sustainable provision for admissions in the local area."

The additional temporary places will be allocated in the first run of the 'Continuing Interest' process towards the end of the week commencing 25 March. Parents do not have to reapply, any unsuccessful applicants will automatically be reconsidered for a place, and parents will be informed by email if a place can be offered.

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