

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS30th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to you as part of a consultation exercise regarding the expansion of our capacity at John Cabot Academy, Bristol Brunel Academy and Bristol Metropolitan Academy.

Student places

The Cabot Learning Federation, alongside the Local Authorities in our region, works to ensure there are adequate secondary school places for all local children to attend a local school. In September 2021 there is an increasing demand for school places, with a larger Year 7 cohort than previous years. As a result, the Cabot Learning Federation is supporting Bristol City Council by offering some additional places to Year 7 at Bristol Brunel and Bristol Metropolitan Academies and City Academy Bristol. This means that more CLF Post 16 students will be located on the John Cabot Academy site.

All of the schools in question are considered to be good schools by Ofsted and we are committed to maintaining the high standards to which our students and their families have become accustomed. We have been planning carefully to welcome more students into the schools to serve the growth in local demand for places; we are confident that the schools will maintain inclusive, high quality provision for all of our pupils in all of our academies while we support Bristol City Council through this period.

Change in capacity

This temporary increase in student numbers, on top of higher admissions in previous years, means that in September there will be more students on roll than the official capacity at John Cabot Academy, Bristol Brunel Academy and Bristol Metropolitan Academy.

The number of pupils in our schools is defined with the Department for Education in our Supplemental Funding Agreement. If we want to add more than 30 children to our roll in any school above that formal capacity number, we are required to consult with our families and wider community.

- At John Cabot Academy, our capacity number is 1056 and our expected number on roll in September 2021 is 1235 (including 391 in CLF Post 16). This includes the expected Year 7 intake of 175.
- At Bristol Brunel Academy, our capacity number is 1180 and our expected number on roll in September 2021 is 1248. This includes the expected Year 7 intake of 290.
- At Bristol Metropolitan Academy, our capacity number is 945 and our expected number on roll in September 2021 is 1060. This includes the expected Year 7 intake of 220.

This consultation is an essential part of the case for Significant Change, which is the formal process through which we must seek Department for Education approval for the increase where it is above 30 children over the agreed capacity number.



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

The change in capacity through increasing our Year 7 admissions is not linked to a permanent change in our Planned Admissions Number (PAN). We are admitting above PAN in 2021 at the request of the Bristol City Council, to support a temporary increase in demand for places and helping to ensure that local children can attend a local school.

Feedback

If you wish to make any representations or comments in respect of this temporary capacity change, please email them to info@clf.uk and they will be collated as part of the consultation exercise for submission to the DfE.

Best wishes,

Mr C Shaw
Principal