



**ELLIOTT
DURHAM**



**GREENWOOD DALE
SCHOOL**



JESSE BOOT

To: The parents of all students at Greenwood Dale school, Elliott Durham school and Jesse Boot school

Dear Parent

In July 2007 the Secretary of State for Education, the Rt Hon Ed Balls, announced that successful and high-performing schools could sponsor their own Academy.

Greenwood Dale school, in Sneinton, is one of the first schools in the country to take advantage of this new opportunity. It will be the sponsor of a new Academy for Nottingham City.

Experian, a well regarded, highly successful international company and the second largest private employer in Nottingham will be a business supporter, providing £500,000 to a Trust Fund for the project.

The original proposal was to create an 11-18 Academy on a new site to serve the areas presently served by Greenwood Dale school and Elliott Durham school. This proposal offered 1650 11-16 places (330 in each year) and 450 post-16 places.

We have now put forward a new proposal, which you may well read about in the local media this week. This proposal, which is currently under active consideration by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, Government Ministers and their advisers, is for a single Academy based on three sites. These sites are the Greenwood Dale site, the Elliott Durham site and the Jesse Boot site.

This new proposal is for a 3-18 Academy, serving the needs of the communities served by these three schools.

- On the Jesse Boot site we are proposing a brand new building for nursery, primary and secondary provision.
- On the Greenwood Dale site we are proposing a post-15 centre for 600 students.
- On the Elliott Durham site we are proposing a new 11-18 school.

The Academy will be led and managed by an Executive Principal who will have oversight of vision, standards, finance and all personnel issues. All three sites will also have 'heads of school' who will have responsibility for the day to day management of each

site. There will also be a head of the nursery and primary provision. This 'schools within a school' model is very important to us, to ensure pupils are taught in smaller units rather than in one very large organisation.

It is not legally possible to appoint the Executive Principal until after an Academy Trust has been formed. However, Barry Day has been asked to lead the Academy project through the feasibility and implementation stages pending this appointment. Barry has been an outstanding headteacher at Greenwood Dale and the school has achieved outstanding results under his leadership.

A particular strength of this Academy will be the strong links between Greenwood Dale as the lead sponsor, Elliott Durham school, Jesse Boot school and Experian as the business supporter and initial funding donor.

Greenwood Dale will draw on Experian's experience of major building projects and IT infrastructure support in the development phase of the project and its business and ICT skills to support students to develop business, work and citizenship skills once the academy is open.

The new Academy will specialise in mathematics, literacy and digital media. Mathematics is a particular strength of Greenwood Dale school. Literacy standards of children joining both Elliott Durham and Greenwood Dale schools at age 11 are a significant cause for concern and need very special focus.

The proposed opening dates for the new Academy will be September 2009 (in existing buildings) and 2011 in new or refurbished buildings on each site.

The Academy will be committed to the highest of standards. High expectations will be the norm as will be the quality of support for students.

This new proposed organisation will allow the primary part of the Academy to build upon the already excellent Jesse Boot school, offering 630 primary places and maintaining the current leadership at the school, securing the highest standards for the future.

The increased secondary numbers will help satisfy local demand for places at Greenwood Dale School, which is already significantly oversubscribed.

Over the next few months formal consultation documents will be issued to ensure parents, staff, governors and members of the community can read in detail about these proposals and then comment on them, if they so wish.

Over the three sites the proposed pupil numbers are:

Nursery	90
KS1 & KS2	630
KS3 & KS4	2400
Post-16	400

The admissions procedure for the nursery, reception and primary part of the academy will be much as it is now. At secondary, the Academy's primary pupils will have an

automatic place, with all other places being allocated, as they are now at Greenwood Dale School, by feeder primary school and then by proximity. The proposed feeder primary schools are Greenwood Junior, Hogarth, Sneinton C of E, Bluebell Hill, Sycamore, Walter Halls, Huntingdon and St Anns Well. The present Greenwood Infants and William Booth Infants would also become feeder schools if the Local Authority's proposal for primary reorganisation in Sneinton is accepted.

We believe there are significant advantages in this proposal compared to the original 'one site' model. We are looking forward to detailing these in the consultation document and at the consultation meetings. The dates of these meetings will be in the consultation documents which will be sent to you.

The proposals will need the formal consent of the Secretary of State for Education. Further, as Elliott Durham and Jesse Boot are community schools, the Local Authority will also need to agree their involvement.

If you have any immediate questions about these new proposals please do not hesitate to contact:

Barry Day – Headteacher at Greenwood Dale	0115 910 3203
Chris Stimson – Headteacher at Elliott Durham	0115 952 3838
Lynda Valentine – Headteacher at Jesse Boot	0115 915 0190

Yours sincerely

David Shelton
Chairman of Governors
Greenwood Dale School