24 June 2001
Ref: CSP / CDW

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to update you with some of the issues current in the Thetford Academy.

Firstly, let me make clear again our position on where the students will be placed next year. We have said that we will not change the site of students who are already at the Academy; they will remain on their home site, as that is the site they chose. All of next year’s Year seven will be on the North site as we now know that is where the new building for the Academy will be. They will be our first year group to be taught together, developing a new Academy tradition to match and include the traditions of the two schools that were in Thetford.

The first meetings for the new building are now going ahead and the students have been asked to give their ideas and parents can email us at info@thetfordacademy.com or write to us, if they have ideas for the building. While this is exciting I have made clear to the staff their priority is the students that we have now and they must focus on them not on a new building.

While we are trying not to have too many changes for the students, the sponsors and the makeup of the Thetford Learning Trust, the body that oversees the Academy has altered. Wymondham College is no longer the lead sponsor. Easton College and their Principal David Lawrence are now the lead sponsors. This change will not affect your child in school but we hope it will give the Academy the benefit of the experience of a Further Education College to use to help all of the Academy’s students.

The sponsors will be looking for a new Principal this term and we hope that the new Principal will be in place by January. The students will be involved in that process and have their say about who they think is best for the job.

You may be aware that there is a national strike that has been called by two of the teaching unions on the 30th June, but this has always been designated for a training day in the Academy. We were not expecting the students in the Academy on that day although many of the teachers will be in training. Do not send your child to school on the 30th of June as no lessons will be taking place.

Finally, we have been updating our website and it will go live again next week with lots of photographs of North and South site students on trips and events. Please have a look at it and see if you can see your child. There is information about the latest events in the Academy and other upcoming activities. There are also handy dates for you to know and you can now follow the Academy on Twitter as well. More details on that will be sent out to you by the ICT department.

Yours sincerely

C Spillane
Acting Principal