



## **Newham Sixth Form College Structure and Prospects Appraisal (SPA): A note for Parents and Carers**

**24 May 2023**

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

As you will know the National Education Union members at NewVIC voted to take a 30 day strike following a dispute with the College.

At the request of NewVIC NEU, the College agreed to hold talks with ACAS to try and resolve the dispute. However NewVIC NEU have decided to continue with strike action, despite saying that the strikes could be avoided if the College agreed to meet and hold talks at ACAS.

The College's Corporation is concerned about the impact any ongoing strike action will have on its students, the College's reputation and on future enrolments. As a result, the Corporation has commissioned a Structure and Prospects Appraisal (SPA).

### **What is a Structure and Prospects Appraisal?**

A Structure and Prospects Appraisal is a process which enables Colleges to assess the options that will help it to continue to deliver high quality education which meets the needs of its local community.

### **Why has the Corporation of Newham Sixth Form College (NewVIC) decided to commission a Structure and Prospects Appraisal (SPA)?**

The College is in a good financial position, however, the Corporation is concerned about the impact that ongoing strike action will have on the life chances of its students, the College's reputation and future enrolments.

The College Corporation has a responsibility to ensure the College continues to provide a high quality education and training which meets the needs of its local community. Undertaking a SPA will enable it to safeguard the future of 16-18 inclusive learning in Newham.

### **Will the Structure and Prospects Appraisal affect my child's education?**

No. The process will not have any impact on your child's studies. The College will continue to operate as normal during the SPA.

**What are the next steps and how long will the process take?**

There is no predetermined outcome to the SPA. Remaining standalone or undertaking a merger with another local college or college group with a local presence will be considered.

On Wednesday 27 April, the Corporation held its first formal meeting with the FE Commissioner with a further meeting on 15 May. A timetable for the SPA process has been agreed. If the Corporation does decide, in principle, to merge, the merger is unlikely to be implemented before April 2024.

Any proposals will be subject to formal consultation and due diligence before a final decision is made. Please see the timetable below:

- Steering Group 2 – 15 May 2023
- Steering Group 3 – 26 May 2023
- Steering Group 4 – 6 July 2023
- Steering Group 5 – 4 October 2023

**How can I find out about the outcomes of the Structure and Prospects Appraisal?**

Information about the SPA process can be found [here](#). Details of any proposals and outcomes of the process will be shared in due course.

**Will I have a chance to share my views on any proposals?**

Yes. You will be invited to share your views via a formal consultation.

We have set up a series of online information sessions for parents/carers who would like to find out more about the SPA process and/or would like to ask questions.

The online meetings will be held on:

[Tuesday 6 June 2023, 5 pm - 6 pm](#)

[Thursday 8 June 2023, 9 am - 10 am](#)

Please let us know if you would like to register to attend one of the meetings by completing the google form [here](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mandeep Gill  
Principal and Chief Executive  
Newham Sixth Form College