

School Specific Perspectives

Hague and Swanlea Schools

Weavers Federation have proactively been seeking partners and are excited to be expanding to offer a collaborative approach to providing outstanding education to our community.

There will be little change for Hague or Swanlea Schools, but we will have a wider range of expertise and resources to draw on. Since Weavers Federation was established we have felt the benefits of improved partnership and sharing our values and curriculum have helped ensure continuity of education for local children. The Federation Governing Body will need to develop ways of working to accommodate an additional school, but this should not affect the day to day running of either school.

Governors hope our staff, parents, children and other stakeholders see this as an important next stage in our development.

Stewart Headlam School.

Weavers Federation have worked in partnership with William Davis and Kobi Nazrul Schools for many years. The Federation has been recently approached by the Local Authority to consider whether it could support William Davis School, which has experienced falling numbers in the same way that Stewart Headlam has done.

Stewart Headlam school was a 2 form entry school, we are now much smaller, so do have space to accommodate all the William Davis children. We have also experienced falling rolls and high numbers of vacancies, which put pressure on our budgets and mean our building is underused.

Like Stewart Headlam, William Davis School has a very strong curriculum, impressive outcomes and empowering values.

Both the schools are in buildings that are not currently fully used. Stewart Headlam building is better designed, and has considerably more play space than William Davis. Bringing the two schools together under the Stewart Headlam umbrella will bring financial sustainability to Stewart Headlam as well as the unique opportunity to further strengthen school improvement.

The Local Authority have committed to support Weavers Federation through the consultation process and through transition if the proposed changes progress. Governors feel that the amalgamation of the schools, by expanding Stewart Headlam within Weavers Federation, will provide greater financial and educational sustainability for Stewart Headlam School as well as giving support to the children and families in our local community who currently attend William Davis.

Kobi Nazrul School

Governors at Kobi Nazrul have been considering partnership options for some time, because they recognise that in today's education system a one-form entry primary school needs to be part of a wider group of schools. Over the last year they have explored several options and have reached the conclusion that joining Weavers Federation might be the best partnership to join. They particularly appreciated the fact that Weavers Federation is strongly committed to excellent local education, is a partnership of local authority schools and that the schools involved have worked with, and value input from, Kobi Nazrul for many years.

Joining the Weavers Federation would mean a single governing body across the schools but the school would continue to with its own budget and OFSTED evaluation. The Weavers Federation recognises the benefits of collaboration but provides space for each school in the federation to maintain its own unique character.

William Davis School

William Davis is a strong school which has delivered quality education and support to its community for many years. As the population in the area has changed the school, like many other nearby schools, has struggled to fill its places. The reality is that there are now too many schools for the number of children in our area.

Although the school moved to mixed age classes to reduce costs unfortunately the costs of the school building mean that it will not be affordable longer term and the school will not be able to balance its budget and maintain the same quality of provision in the future.

William Davis has a wonderful set of children and families, and many skilled and experienced staff. Governors have looked at all possible options and think that merging with Stewart Headlam School , so that all William Davis children and many of the current staff can move together. We think this will allow children and staff to be valued members of the Weavers Federation. Leaving William Davis to gradually become unaffordable could be a slow depressing decline, and simply closing our school would not protect the children and staff futures in the way they deserve.

Stewart Headlam School is an outstanding school, ten minutes' walk from William Davis, with space to accommodate all the William Davis children because it moved from being a two forms of entry school to just one form of entry. Educating William Davis children with Stewart Headlam children would give greater future education sustainability and continuity. Stewart Headlam is a founder school for Weavers Federation, and benefits from the additional support of a strong partnership, committed to local families.

Governors would like to hear your views on this proposal, which they hope you agree provides a positive future option, given the school can no longer afford to operate efficiently.