
Academy in Holbeach gets the green light for local schools

Plans for a new Academy in Holbeach to replace the George Farmer Technology College and Crowland St Guthlac's School have been approved by the Secretary of State.

Lincolnshire County Council has supported the Academy proposal with the two schools and the lead sponsor, Lincoln University. The University will be joined by Langwith Builders, A H Worth and Holbeach Tyres to take the project forward for opening in 2011.

This Academy will provide increased capacity for the area with world class facilities linked to the University site in Holbeach. As part of the process, the Crowland site will merge with Holbeach. There will be a phased move of the secondary aged children at Crowland to Holbeach and options for other schools. The St Guthlacs secondary school site will be used to provide a larger site for the primary school and the community use once the development of enhanced facilities in Holbeach are finalised.

Councillor Mrs Patricia Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Children's Services, said: *"This is excellent news for children and young people in the area. It will provide them with enhanced education provision with top quality resources and modern buildings. I am delighted this partnership between the schools, Lincoln University, local industry and the County Council has successfully convinced ministers of the value of producing world class education in the area".*

Chris Penney, Chair of Governors of the Federation, commented: *"The opportunity for the University and local businesses to develop a new Academy is great news and we look forward with enthusiasm to taking this work forward."*

Andrew Atherton, Pro Vice Chancellor at the University of Lincoln, added: *"The University is excited and energised by the opportunity to work with the excellent staff and governors*

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of the schools to develop a ground breaking Academy in South Lincolnshire. We have a long-term commitment to education in this part of the county, focused on our Holbeach campus, which already works closely with schools and employers."

ENDS

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