



PROJECT VAUGHAN

Press Release

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Harrow schools unite to offer all-through education to local children

The John Lyon School and Quainton Hall School will become a single school offering nursery, junior and senior education to boys and girls aged 2 ½ - 18.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two of North West London's most successful schools are to merge, creating a single school that will educate 800 children from Harrow and surrounding areas.

Having stood as a successful prep school in the centre of Harrow for more than 120 years, Quainton Hall School will come together with The John Lyon School, a 144-year-old senior day school in Harrow-on-the-Hill to form a unified 4 - 18 school with attached 2 ½ - 4 nursery. The schools will continue to operate on both sites.

The move to become a single school will represent the most important and significant change that either school has ever seen and comes at a time when both are in positions of strength. Pupil numbers are secure and both schools have recently received coveted Double Excellent school inspection reports.

Rooted in the heart of Harrow, Quainton Hall and John Lyon are schools that share similar educational values. Both place a great focus on the importance of an all-round education; that learning and development both in and outside the classroom help develop confident, successful and happy children.

The move to unite the schools was led by The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, which has run Quainton Hall for the past 75 years. The Shrine, based 125 miles away in north Norfolk, approached John Lyon believing a partnership with another established local school, which itself is part of the wider John Lyon's Foundation (John Lyon School, Harrow School and John Lyon's Charity), would be in the best interest of Quainton Hall.

John Lyon Head, Miss Katherine Haynes said: "Bringing together two highly successful schools to create a single institution focused on delivering a strong and broad education to local children is a

great success story and a hugely exciting point in our combined histories. The timing seems especially right as it comes just months after John Lyon announced it will soon educate girls for the first time. Quainton Hall is a school which holds very similar values to John Lyon, and we have been lucky to work with them for many years. Each September a number of their pupils move up to John Lyon for their secondary education and we have been consistently impressed by the learning their pupils bring with them.

“We are grateful to The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham for seeing John Lyon as the right partner for Quainton Hall, and we look forward to continuing to foster the strong educational values they have built over many years.”

Mr Simon Ford, Headmaster of Quainton Hall Schools said: “This merger cements what has been a hugely successful period in the recent history of Quainton Hall School. In the past six years, the School has increased its numbers by over a third, as its excellent academic reputation and strong focus on pastoral care have continued to go from strength to strength. Our school inspection recognised this high standard, where Quainton Hall was rated ‘excellent’ in all areas.

As Head, I am delighted to join with Miss Haynes to merge the two schools, both of which are in the perfect position to create a highly successful single school, offering educational excellence for boys and girls from Nursery to Sixth Form. Such an alliance will enable the two schools to unite their shared educational values, expertise and resources to provide a safe, secure and nurturing through education for our pupils. This is an extremely exciting time for the future of John Lyon and Quainton Hall, both of whom have enjoyed a strong and long-established history as highly regarded educators of children in North West London.”

The Right Reverend Philip North, Bishop of Burnley and Master of the Guardians of The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, said: “We are delighted about the exciting prospects for Quainton Hall School as it comes together with the highly-regarded John Lyon School, located just a mile away. The Shrine’s nurturing stewardship of Quainton Hall in the last 75 years has fostered a welcoming environment and a high standard of education and pastoral care for all students. However, the demands of leading a school far away from the Shrine’s base in Norfolk led us to believe that a partnership with another local school would be in Quainton Hall’s best interest.

“Quainton Hall is in very good shape and we believe that the special spirit of the school, its supportive environment, and the dedication of its staff, will continue to flourish when the two schools amalgamate.”

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