

Falmer Academy

NEWSLETTER

May 09

New Principal Designate appointed for Academy

We are delighted to tell students, staff, parents and carers that we have been successful in our search for a new Principal to lead the new Academy.

Philomena (Phil) Hogg, pictured right, brings a great track record from her previous school, Woodhouse College, where she improved exam results dramatically in the last two years.

Woodhouse College has an age range of 11-19 and in its latest Ofsted report from 2008 Phil's leadership was identified as 'outstanding'. Over the last two years GCSE A-C grades at the college have moved from 44 per cent to 68 per cent and A-C grades including English and Maths from 26 per cent to 37 per cent.

Phil will concentrate on the many tasks required to be completed to set-up the Academy and start as Principal Designate of Falmer Academy in September 2009. She will become Principal when the Academy opens in September 2010.

Her record speaks for itself and she is looking forward to getting to know the Falmer school community and to working in partnership to raise achievement and put the new Academy on the map.

Falmer Academy sponsor, Rod Aldridge, says, 'Phil was appointed from an exceptionally strong field of candidates and her selection was unanimous. We believe that Falmer Academy's staff and students will flourish under the leadership of such a strong and experienced head teacher.

'I very much look forward to working with Phil and am confident that she will drive improvements for students and bring considerable benefits to the local community'.

Principal Designate Phil Hogg added, 'I am delighted to have been appointed as Principal of the new Falmer Academy. This is an exciting time for students, staff and all those connected to the new Academy and I look forward greatly to meeting everyone in September.



'This will be a real partnership for the future. I want parents and carers to be fully involved in the life of the Academy. One of the first things I will do is meet with parents and carers in September to hear their ideas for making the Academy a hub for the whole community.

'There will be lots of ways parents and carers can be involved through the parents' council, parents' evenings, open evenings and community events. I believe their support and involvement is a critical part of the recipe for success.'



• **In the next issue** of the newsletter we will be telling you more about the exciting plans for the new buildings. On 12 May Brighton & Hove City Council announced the appointment of Crawley based Kier Group as the construction company for building the new Academy, work on which will begin this Summer. The next newsletter will show you the imaginative designs that the team from Kier have created.

• **On page 2 of this newsletter** you can find out more about Rod Derbyshire who will become a familiar face as the Academy's Project Manager.

Visit the website for the latest news and updates about the Falmer Academy
www.proposedfalmeracademy.org or email
info@proposedfalmeracademy.org

Our sponsor:



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Working in
Partnership with
Brighton & Hove
City Council

Students to be involved in design of new Academy



In addition to the Principal Designate, another important appointment has been made this month. Brighton & Hove City Council have appointed Rod Derbyshire, pictured left, who will take up his new role as Project Manager in June. Rod will be responsible for ensuring that the new Academy building project is completed on time and on budget.

Here we ask Rod about the challenge of his new role and why he's so keen to involve students.

Q: Can you describe what your role will entail?

A: I liken the role of a Project Manager to that of an Orchestral Conductor. He has to know the score backwards, use the expertise of the key players to the maximum effect at the right time and keep the whole of the team working together to achieve the desired result. The construction process is very much a team activity and my role will be to provide the overall direction and management support necessary for the team to be successful.

Q: How do you see your role in relation to the wider community in the area?

A: I believe my role is to get to know key players so that we create a building which, within the budget available, meets their aspirations.

Q: Do you plan to involve students in any of your activities?

A: I would like to have students acting as Academy Ambassadors through the design, construction and occupation phases. Their function will be to inform, review and comment on the design proposals as they are developed and spread information and ask for opinions among the wider student community. The design and construction processes should also be seen and used as educational and vocational opportunities for all students as far as possible.



Parents' Council – last call for members

In the last Falmer Academy Newsletter we invited you to join our Falmer Academy Parents' Council.

We are pleased to say that a number of you have already signed up but there is no restriction on numbers so if you are interested in the development of the Academy or if you just want to know more about what's happening at the school why not join us by completing the FREEPOST slip below. We are holding our first meeting at the end of June.

Alternatively you can register your interest by emailing: info@proposedfalmeracademy.org

Parents' Council: Call for members

I am interested in finding out more/putting my name forward (delete as applicable) for the new Parents' Council.

Name: Address:
Email:
Phone Number:
Parent / Carer of:
Year group:

Please return to: **Freepost RLSL-UJXY_BUKH** 15 St John's Hill, London SW11 1TN

For more information on the Academy visit the website www.proposedfalmeracademy.org or email info@proposedfalmeracademy.org