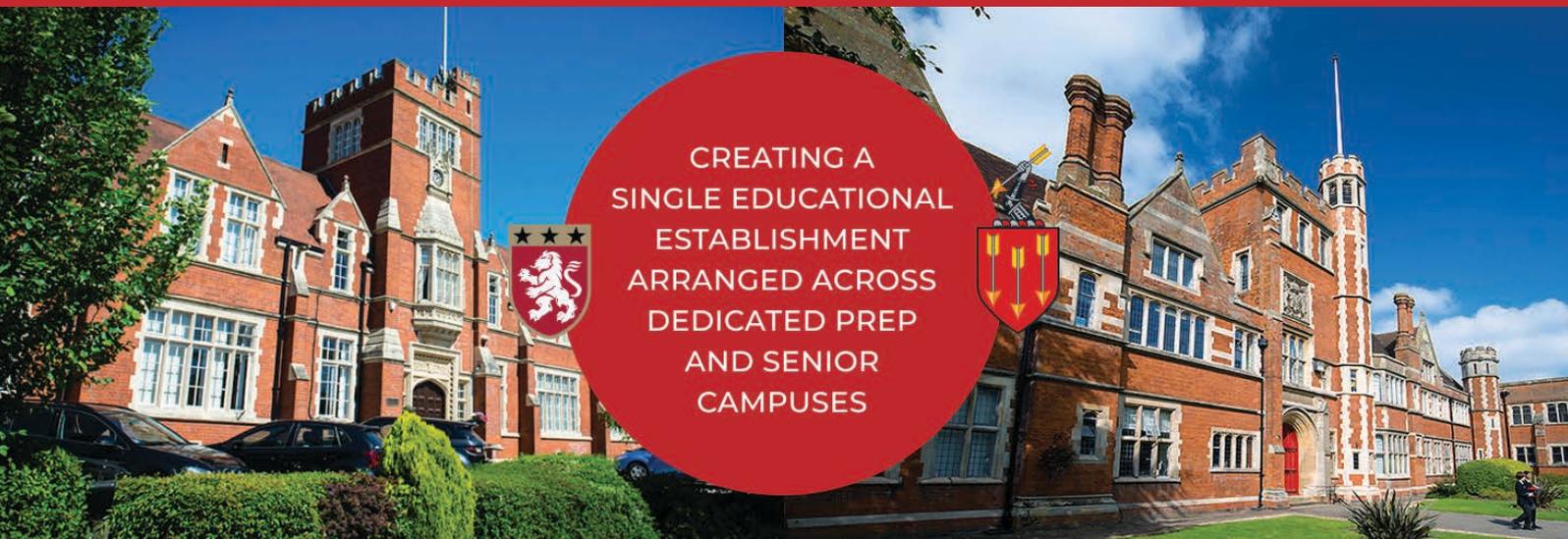


# ONE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – XMAS EDITION | **THIS ISSUE:** NEW NAME, PROJECT LEAD AND BUILDING PARTNER



CREATING A  
SINGLE EDUCATIONAL  
ESTABLISHMENT  
ARRANGED ACROSS  
DEDICATED PREP  
AND SENIOR  
CAMPUSES

## A NEW (OLD) NAME!

Thank you to everyone who contributed ideas and voted on our shortlist of possible names for our new school. The time and care you

took to let us have your views, was much appreciated and demonstrated to us all just how much our schools matter to so many different people.

All your feedback has been discussed and recommendations made to the Governing Body. We are pleased to let you know that the decision has been taken that the new school will be called **Bablake and King Henry VIII School**.

The new name clearly recognises the long and proud contribution that both schools have made to the city, and signals that this is a merger of two great establishments. We anticipate that this official name will inevitably get shortened, and will liaise with our marketing departments over the colloquial name (e.g. Bablake King Henry's, BKH, BKHS) although we also suspect that this will happen organically as we all get used to referring to our new school.

### Branding decisions

The eagle-eyed among you will have noted that the masthead of this newsletter has changed, and we are referring to One School as a holding identity. We are currently working on developing a new brand identity for Bablake and King Henry VIII School and will unveil that in the new year. Thanks again for your input into our branding decisions, which are informing our current discussions.

## APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT

We're pleased to let you know that we have appointed **AHR Building Consultancy** to work on our Sixth Form design concepts and also to develop plans that will cover work at both the prep and senior sites. AHR have a huge and diverse portfolio of work for the education sector and we would encourage you to take a look at their website to see some examples of their projects (we have included two examples of their work below for interest).

We are also in the process of upgrading all school systems to **iSAMS** which will bring about cost-saving and workload efficiencies within school, and allow us to provide a smoother service to parents.



# ONE SCHOOL

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWLY APPOINTED PROJECT LEAD ANDREW WRIGHT

## CONTINUING TRADITIONS FROM BOTH OUR GREAT SCHOOLS

As many of you will know by now, I have been asked to take over as Project Lead. For those who don't already know me, I joined Bablake in 2017 as Deputy Head, having previously had leadership roles in a variety of schools in the Midlands and Buckinghamshire.

I took over as Headmaster at Easter 2019. Like everyone who works in our schools, I strongly believe that what we do is about far more than just exam results. Our co-curricular and pastoral programmes are just as vital as the academic ones. Music, drama, outdoor education, sport and other activities help develop many crucial skills and are important for our physical and mental health.

There is much more in common between Bablake and King Henry VIII than we perhaps like to admit and the new school will continue the traditions from both. Outside school I umpire and coach hockey, play the trombone (badly) and try and get up some mountains when I can. My family were originally from Coventry and Nuneaton, some attended KHVIII School and some Bablake.

In announcing my role, I explained that it would take a few weeks before I could handover the reins at Bablake. I am now confident that this will have happened by the beginning of January, so I will be



New Project Lead Andrew Wright with Bablake students (left) and Project Manager Sharon Finch (right)

**Coming in  
January 2021**  
Transport survey to  
assess demand  
First look at our  
new uniform

able to spend more time getting to know all those involved in our schools in the New Year. If you see me around, please introduce yourself and I will also arrange some formal opportunities where you can contribute. My office will be at KHVIII Senior School and I will let you know how you can contact me once this has been arranged. Initially, I will be working to get more information to everyone about how the transition will work to help allay some of the anxieties.

As we make more progress, we will start making appointments to the leadership team of the new school from within our current team. To start, we have made two excellent temporary appointments:

Mrs Sharon Finch, our Project Manager, recently moved to Warwickshire with her family. She is an experienced and qualified project manager and accountant who has worked with FTSE 100 companies and charitable organisations. She will work with me to manage the merger. Her two daughters are enjoying their independence, one at London School of Economics and the other hoping to apply to university for September 2021 to read Geography and Business. She enjoys most sports including rowing, circuits and recently tennis and orienteering and is desperately looking forward to skiing in 2021 Covid permitting!

Mr Dean Judge, will lead on the estate development, making sure that our sites are ready for the change and in a way that does not disadvantage our current pupils. He has been in building services and estates management for the last 25 years. Dean has worked on large scale design and build programmes in the public sector, as well as refurbishment projects in historic houses such as those in the Royal Household, English Heritage and The National Trust.

### PROJECT FAQs

We're updating the Frequently Asked Questions on our project website in response to your questions and comments. Please take a look at this [link](#).