



For immediate release

PRESS RELEASE

TWO HARRIS ACADEMIES SET TO OPEN IN BROMLEY

The Governing Bodies of Cator Park School and Kelsey Park Sports College have both voted to become Academies within the Harris Federation.

The two Academies will open in September 2011 and provide an outstanding choice of education for families in Beckenham and the surrounding areas. Cator Park will remain an all girls school, and Kelsey Park will begin work towards becoming co-educational. Both will aim to deliver outstanding education with drive and ambition.

The Harris Federation is a local charity which operates a highly successful family of Academies across south London. The pace of improvement in their GCSE results is regularly 3 or 4 times the national average and almost all of their Academies to have been inspected so far are called “Outstanding” by Ofsted.

Dr Dan Moynihan, Chief Executive of the Harris Federation, said:

“We are delighted to be working with Cator Park and Kelsey and thrilled that they have chosen to become Harris Academies. Everything that is already good about the two schools will stay the same, but we will support them so that they continue to improve and become outstanding Academies for their students, staff and parents.

“Our Academies in Croydon receive about 600 applications each year from families in Bromley, many of whom we have to turn away. So it is a real pleasure to finally be serving children in the Borough with two Harris Academies of their own.”



Meryl Davies, Headteacher of Cator Park School, said:

“We are determined to secure the very best for our students and are pleased that, in the Harris Federation, we will have the support of a local education charity with ambitions that match our own. The consultation we held prior to our decision was extremely well participated in by students, staff, parents and the wider Beckenham community and I am certain that this outcome is the right one for our school.”

Jenni Mogridge, who is Chair of Governors at Cator Park School, said:

“Cator Park has always worked incredibly hard and our aim is to become the first choice for girls in the area. The response to our consultation showed how much parents and students value the school. With the support, experience and resources of the Harris Federation we aim to go from strength to strength.”

Brian Lloyd, Headteacher of Kelsey Park Sports College, said:

“After deciding to pursue Academy status, we met with several Academy sponsors to discuss how they could help us to build on our strengths as a school. Our governors overwhelmingly agreed that the Harris Federation would be the group best able to support us in achieving our aspirations and ambitions. We are now looking forward as a school to a happy, successful and secure future.”

Karl Hoods, Chair of Governors at Kelsey Park Sports College, said:

“As a new co-educational Academy, Kelsey Park will now be able to provide a unique offer to parents in Beckenham and the surrounding areas - this is the first time local families will have had the option to send their children to a mixed school in this part of Bromley. I’m looking forward to working with the Harris Federation in making this school the very best it can be.”

Dietrich Nanton, who is a parent governor at Kelsey Park Sports College, said:

“As a parent at Kelsey Park, I have been very pleased with the improvements that have been made already by the school and am looking forward to us being able to build on these as a Harris Academy from this September.”