26th March 2025

Dear Parents,

We are writing to share an exciting opportunity for Latchmere School to support children with special educational needs in our local community.

Due to a falling birth rate and a reduction in applications for school places across London, Latchmere has moved to three-form entry, leaving us with some unused space. In light of this, we have been working with the Local Authority, in collaboration with Orchard Hill College Academy Trust, to explore the possibility of establishing a satellite provision on our school grounds for primary aged Dysart School children with special educational needs.

This proposed satellite will operate similarly to Apollo, our neighbouring specialist provision, which is run by the same multi-academy Trust. It will have its own leadership structure and organisation, meaning the children and staff will not be part of Latchmere School, but we will work collaboratively with them, just as we do with Apollo. The satellite will be housed in a sectioned-off area of our site with its own dedicated playground space.

At Latchmere, we are committed to making the best use of our available space while ensuring our buildings are used efficiently and sustainably. We will retain ownership of the building and lease it to Orchard Hill College Academy Trust, helping to create much-needed additional spaces for children with SEND in the local area.

We are truly excited about this opportunity to support more children in our community while making effective use of our facilities.

Orchard Hill College Academy Trust is currently consulting on expanding their provision for Dysart School via this satellite and we have attached details on the consultation process, through which we would encourage Latchmere families to share their views.

The children and families who attend Latchmere are at the heart of everything we do and we would appreciate your engagement with the consultation so that your views are heard as we take forward these proposals.

We will continue to keep you updated throughout this process and attach a Q&A with further information and details about the ways in which you can ask questions and provide feedback (including through a drop-in information session on Wednesday 26th March, 3.20pm-4.20pm in the school hall).

Thank you for your continued support

Anna Steels — Executive Head teacher

Carolyn Coles — Head of School

020 8546 7181

www.latchmereschool.org
office@latchmereschool.org
headteacher@latchmereschool.org

Latchmere Road
Kingston upon Thames
KT2 5TT