

## **Nexus MAT Press Release**

### **Academy re-designation May 2017**

Abbey School is proud to confirm that from September 2017 it will be increasing its offer to include Key Stage 1 and sixth form provision. This will increase places at the school to 110 initially and 120 by 2018, and marks an exciting next phase of the Abbey school journey.

This is a huge step forward for the Rotherham local offer which will increase choice for the children and families of Rotherham. Abbey school was judged to be "Good" in all areas at its last Ofsted inspection in May 2016, and the school continues to innovate as it pushes the boundaries of special educational needs.

Abbey School is a founding school within Nexus Multi Academy Trust, established in June 2016, alongside Hilltop and Kelford schools, and has used the freedoms given academies to work closely with Rotherham Council to better meet children's needs.

Luci Windle, Headteacher of Abbey School said: "Staff and governors have worked so hard to push Abbey School forward and we are all so excited about being able to add something new and different to the Rotherham local offer. Nexus Multi Academy Trust has played a key role in supporting Abbey School realise our vision for doing more for our children and young people, and we can't wait for September to start delivering!"

Warren Carratt, Nexus MAT Chief Executive Officer, added: "We are very fortunate to have excellent working relationships with the commissioners at Rotherham Council. Whilst the vision for Key Stage 1 and Sixth Form at Abbey was developed by the school community, we couldn't have achieved this so quickly without the support of RMBC. Nationally there is a real squeeze on special school places and expansion of provision at Nexus academies is a helpful means of keeping children and young people in the borough, accessing the best education possible. Nexus MAT will continue to work closely with families, the Council and our multi agency partners to do as much as we can to make Rotherham the best place for people to live".

Parents and carers interested in this new provision should contact the Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service on 01709 823627 or Abbey School on 01709 740074.

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