



18 May 2017

Boarding accommodation developments

As part of our ongoing development of boarding accommodation we are developing exciting plans to build high quality flexible accommodation to meet the growing demand for future boarding provision.

To implement this change we must introduce some restructuring of our current Houses, which will enable us to phase in the changes and minimise any impact on our current pupils and their families.

In 2017-18, we will begin an 18-month project to create the space within the hostel block for re-development of some facilities and rooms so that it is ready to welcome additional pupils. In 2019-20 it is planned that Morrison will join with Nowell, making space for the development of the new boarding house on the Morrison site.

Key changes

- John Western will move to Paley to become its Housemaster.
- This September, current Year 8 boys will be allocated to Morrison, Paley and Shute as their senior houses and in September 2018 the current Year 7 boys will be allocated to Nowell, Paley and Shute as they enter Year 9.
- Phil Andrew will become the Housemaster of Nowell, overseeing its transition. He provides a wealth of pastoral experience, as well as existing knowledge of many of the boys and their families.

Plans for the proposed development of the boarding accommodation will be further outlined on Speech Day and we have prepared the following FAQs to help with any questions you may have.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why make these changes to Nowell?

These changes create space for redevelopment of some of the existing facilities in Nowell.

Why make these changes to Morrison?

The Morrison site provides the best option for significant redevelopment of boarding facilities.

My son is a day pupil in Nowell, will he still be able to board?

Yes, there will be the opportunity for occasional boarding alongside the full and flexi boarders in the House.

My son is currently in Year 9, 10, 11 or Lower Sixth in Nowell or Morrison, could he move now to join his peers in the other House?

We believe the boys have formed strong bonds and allegiances and will be happiest remaining together in their current houses. Morrison has limited capacity in comparison to the other boys' Houses, which is why redevelopment is essential, and space is required in Nowell to allow for enabling works but the two Housemasters will work closely with each other to ensure there are plenty of opportunities for the boys to participate in activities together.

Will the redevelopment work disturb my son's learning?

The majority of building work will be completed during holiday periods to cause minimal interruption to boys in Nowell and Morrison. Clearing the Morrison site will enable the major work to be done without interfering on pupils' daily lives.

How will inter-House competitions take place?

Morrison and Nowell boys in Years 9 & 10 will join together to form junior teams for inter-House competitions during the two-year transition period.

My son is in Year 10 in Morrison or Nowell, will there still be leadership opportunities for him when he reaches the Upper Sixth?

There are plenty of opportunities for House or School leadership and responsibility to which the boys can look forward and aspire. We will work to ensure that nobody loses opportunity because of the house merger.

What will happen to the names 'Morrison' and 'Nowell'?

Once the redevelopment is complete, the plan is to use both names for boarding Houses.

What will happen to Morrison when it has been redeveloped?

The redeveloped Morrison will reopen, offering high quality flexible rooms and facilities to meet the growing demand for future boarding accommodation.
