

AMBITION - CARE - COURAGE

05 October 2026

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Rebuild of John O'Gaunt School

I am delighted to be able to share with you the news that John O'Gaunt School is to be fully rebuilt as part of the Department for Education's School Rebuilding Programme.

Following a successful application in 2022, JOG was selected as one of only 524 schools nationally to benefit from this significant government investment programme, from more than 21,000 schools across England.

Our bid initially focused on replacing the ageing Sports Hall and Woodlands block. However, following extensive surveys across the school site it became apparent that the project needed to be widened in scope and will now involve a complete rebuild of the school.

We are working closely with the Department for Education and its advisers to ensure that the new facilities support curriculum delivery, operational requirements and the day-to-day needs of the school community. The project is expected to enter the procurement phase next year, with construction currently anticipated to begin in Spring 2028 and last for approximately two and half years.

The school will continue to function fully whilst any work takes place. High-quality temporary school buildings will be provided where necessary and some parts of the current school will remain open for part of the time.

An extensive part of our planning is centred around ensuring that we continue to provide your child with an excellent education throughout the course of the rebuild. Our DfE colleagues are of course well-versed in managing similar projects elsewhere and logistical planning with them and in school has already begun.

Once complete, the redevelopment will provide modern, safe, accessible and energy-efficient facilities that will enhance teaching and learning and improve the experience of our students.

The investment will also benefit the wider community through improved facilities, opportunities for community use, support for local employment during construction, and the creation of a sustainable educational environment for future generations.

I hope you'll agree that this is hugely exciting news for the school and for our community too. JOG has educated thousands of local children over a period of more than sixty years, and we're excited to be able to shape the new facilities that will continue to serve local people for decades to come.

Whilst we are still very early in the planning stages of the project, we are aware that you may have questions about it. At the appropriate time we will run information events and will keep you fully informed as the project progresses.

In the meantime, if you have any queries about the project than please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Hawthorne
Principal