

# Public Meeting

The Future of Secondary Education in Burnham



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**Hosted by**

**Burnham Grammar and Lent Rise Schools**

**Venue: Burnham Library**

**10<sup>th</sup> October 7-8pm**

## Background

You will no doubt be aware that E-Act Burnham Park Academy closed at the end of last Academic year. This was due to the number of students entering Year 7 significantly decreasing over the last 4 or more years, making the school unable to offer a viable secondary curriculum.

This is a sad end to a school with over 50 years of history that has served the Burnham community well for much of its history. At the present time Burnham students will either go to Burnham Grammar School or will go to a secondary school in Slough, Maidenhead or Bourne End Academy, which is also run by E-Act. Many of these schools offer an excellent education, however, as building programmes in Slough and Maidenhead gather pace it is clear that in the near future it is likely that students from Burnham will not be able to gain places in either Slough or Maidenhead secondary schools as they will live too far away. Quite simply there is a very clear danger that children in Burnham may have very limited options for secondary education if they do not attend Burnham Grammar School.

The Trustees of Beeches Learning and Development Trust (BLDT), which is led by Burnham Grammar School, and the Governors of Lent Rise School have been greatly concerned by this situation and the potential impact on the Burnham community. Both have been jointly in discussion with Buckinghamshire County Council, who also share these concerns, and the Regional Schools Commissioner to discuss possible long term solutions. Currently we are discussing the possibility of developing a 'through' school. If we were to pursue this proposal Lent Rise may join the BLDT; a full consultation in the future would precede any formal decision.

## Survey

We are seeking the views of as many local residents as possible. This will help us to develop our plans and provide us with an estimate of demand which is as realistic as possible. Please let us know your views.

The survey can be found on the link below

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/burnhamsecondarysurvey>

Alternatively, paper copies can be found in the library and handed in at either school site.

## Proposal

Our vision is to offer an inspirational, supportive, engaging and demanding curriculum that enables every child to achieve their best. We believe local children deserve an excellent local secondary school that develops their potential and meets their differing needs. Lent Rise and Burnham Grammar are both successful local schools; with our combined strengths we are convinced we can deliver an outstanding secondary education to all pupils.

We consider the following to be essential to achieve this.

- Working with the community to fully understand the requirement
- Making use of expertise from all sectors
- Creating a broad and dynamic curriculum which matches the needs of students
- Providing varied and interesting career options for staff

Lent Rise School would become a 'through' school, from Reception to Year 13, utilising the expertise of Lent Rise and Burnham Grammar Schools. There would be additional forms of entry at Y7, providing places for local pupils not attending Lent Rise primary phase.

### About Lent Rise School

Lent Rise School is a primary phase school for pupils aged 4+ to 11+ years old. Originally opened in 1973, the school is a flourishing, caring community, where children learn to grow in self-confidence, where high expectations are fostered and all are helped to develop an awareness of the need for mutual trust and respect. Children are offered a range of educational opportunities covering the academic, creative, sporting, spiritual and social aspects of a child's development. Lent Rise School became an academy in November 2015.

### About Burnham Grammar School

#### and the Beeches Learning and Development Trust (BLDT)

Burnham Grammar School focuses on nurturing the individual, developing responsible learning and raising aspirations to enable students to achieve their full potential. Burnham Grammar is the lead and sponsor school of the Beeches Learning and Development Trust (BLDT), a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). The MAT is a single legal entity and is the employer and holder of land titles and the Trust Board is accountable for all Academies in the MAT, and is made up of Trustees, the majority of whom are current Burnham Grammar School Local Governing Body (LGB) Governors. Dorney School is also part of BLDT with a separate LGB.