



**The Manor**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

8 July 2011

Dear Boys' Parents

### **Relationship of The Manor with Abingdon Preparatory School**

We are writing to clarify the relationship between The Manor Preparatory School and Abingdon Preparatory School. We share a similar ethos and feel that the vast majority of our boys are and will be well suited to Abingdon Preparatory School, although we also ensure that boys are extremely well prepared for any school to which they move at 7+.

In 2006, as part of the Abingdon4Education partnership, a relationship was established between the two schools concerning the transfer of 7+ boys from The Manor to Abingdon Prep, where there is a further class added in Year 3; this arrangement confirmed the offer of a reserved place for our boys at 7+ at Abingdon Prep, providing of course the boy had the ability to thrive there. During this 2010/11 academic year, boys at The Manor have risen to Year 2 and therefore this is the first opportunity we have had to see how the transfer works in practice and to work on any improvements. All the Year 2 boys who applied to Abingdon Prep have been offered places there.

Crispin Hyde-Dunn (Headmaster, Abingdon Prep), Jon Gabitass (Chair of Governors, Abingdon Prep), Rebecca Kashti (Chair of Governors, The Manor) and I have agreed the following which remains true to the original 2006 Memorandum of Understanding between the schools but provides more detail about the transfer:

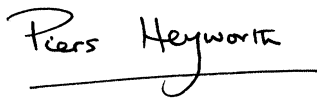
- Parents wishing their son to transfer to Abingdon Prep in Year 3 should register him there by the end of Year 1 at the latest\*. This ensures that a place is reserved for him in Year 3 at Abingdon Prep, providing of course that he has the ability to thrive there. Abingdon Prep will therefore undertake an assessment of our boys in the September of Year 2 to ensure that they will fit comfortably within the ability spectrum for their year. If it was felt that for the occasional boy Abingdon Prep was not the appropriate school, The Manor would ensure that parents were given the best advice about what is on offer at other schools.
- The Manor staff are liaising closely with Abingdon Prep staff to ensure that we understand precisely what standards are required by Abingdon Prep so that we can bear this in mind in our teaching; we can, therefore, advise parents accordingly well in advance about how their son is progressing.

- Parents will only pay a deposit at Abingdon Prep when accepting the place in the Autumn Term of Year 2 in anticipation of their son transferring there in Year 3.

The links between Abingdon Prep and The Manor are something we value enormously and which we are constantly developing: links exist through Drama ('Carrots' and the recent 'Peter Pan'), Music (joint Singing Days) and sporting fixtures. Increasingly, links through after-school activities (eg debating and general knowledge competitions) are being planned. On a practical level, the minibus connection between the schools is proving very valuable.

We hope this clarifies the relationship between the two schools, which is a key part of Abingdon4Education.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Piers Heyworth". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Piers Heyworth  
Headmaster

\* The Registrar is Cathy Hambly and she can be contacted on the school telephone line of **01865 391570** and the email address of [registrar@abingdonprep.org.uk](mailto:registrar@abingdonprep.org.uk). There will always be someone at school for parents of this year's Year 1 to contact over the summer.