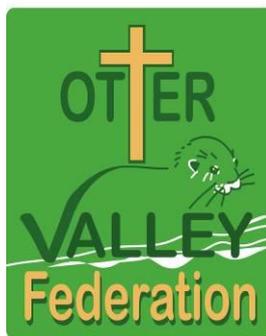


Feniton Church of England  
(VA) Primary School  
Station Road  
Feniton  
Devon  
EX14 3EA



Tel: 01404 850303  
Email: [admin@feniton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@feniton.devon.sch.uk)



Tipton St. John Church of England  
(VA) Primary School  
Tipton St. John  
Sidmouth  
Devon  
EX10 0AG



TIPTON ST JOHN  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tel: 01404 812943  
Email [admin@tipton-stjohn.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tipton-stjohn.devon.sch.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who attended at least one of the meetings in regard to the proposal to move Tipton St. John Church of England Primary School to the Thorne Farm site in Ottery St Mary.

The updated rationale for the relocation of Tipton St. John School is documented on the school website under parent information, other letters, school relocation (<http://www.tipton-stjohn.devon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/The-rationale-for-the-relocation-of-Tipton-St-John-school-to-Ottery-St-Mary.pdf>).

In the near future we will send out a question and answer sheet to address some of the points raised at the meetings. This will also be added to the website.

Since 2016, when the proposal to move the school was first announced, the main barrier to progress has been due to a significant funding shortfall. As you may well have read in the local press, the funding solution will be solved by the sale by Devon County Council of the remainder of the site at Thorne Farm, near Kings Secondary School. It is intended that the land will be for 150 houses of which 37 will be affordable houses. Devon County Council are currently preparing an outline planning application to be submitted to East Devon District Council around February 2020. If planning permission is given, the funding will become available for the building of the school. At that point there will be a formal consultation about

- a. moving the school to Ottery St. Mary
- b. enlarging the school to 210 (although it may take several years to grow to full capacity).

There is another consultation meeting today, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October; at Ottery St. Mary Football club from 12 noon to 7pm. You might like to attend to see more about the project. Following this day there will be a three-week period for responses. You will be able to post your comments via the following link: [www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay](http://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay)

Your responses will form a significant part of the information considered by the county and planners. We encourage you to respond to ensure that balanced views are heard. The main consideration as always is the safety of all who use the site. It is important to understand that this is the only proposal that secures OUR school for the long term.

Just a few points to stress:

- The Otter Valley Federation Governors have a due responsibility for the safety of the pupils, staff and visitors onto the site.
- The lower school site is rated at the highest category of flood risk, a 3. All the mitigation work that has been carried out so far is limited in its effect and will not stop a significant flood from reaching the site.
- Since 2003, 7 sites in Tipton St. John have been considered but none proved viable.

- The proposal if agreed will ensure that Tipton St. John Church of England Primary School moves, thus finally securing the long term future of the school. The school will retain our church foundation, ethos, staff, and children in a vibrant and growing school and building fit for the 21st Century.
- Our buildings are increasingly dilapidated although all available capital / building funds are used for maintenance and repairs.

If you have any further questions then please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

**Colin Butler**  
(Executive Headteacher)

**John Sherwood**  
(Lead Governor for the flooding and possible relocation of Tipton school)