



Dear Parents and Community Members,

Wisbech Free School – Approval to Open in September 2024

We are delighted to confirm that the decision to open a new secondary school in Wisbech has received the approval from Ministers at the Department for Education.

After half term, we are inviting you, parents and students who are interested in applying for one of the 120 Year 7 places at the new school to **join us on Monday 3rd June at 5.30pm at Thomas Clarkson Academy.**

At the 'Open Evening', school leaders will be able to share more information about the school and explain how you can apply for a place at the school.

A representative and Councillors from Cambridgeshire County Council are also planning to attend to answer any questions around the Council led aspects of the project and how the Council will be working closely with the school leaders to coordinate the admissions process.

Now the buildings have been approved by the relevant authorities, we will also be able to share more details about our vision for the school and unveil the new school logo – which we have been working with local pupils to create over the past few weeks.

You will be aware that the Department for Education and Cambridgeshire County Council have been working closely together for some time, along with Brooke Weston Trust, to see whether it would be possible to open the Free School earlier than had been planned to create additional school places in our region. The Free School was originally expected to open in 2026 in a brand-new school building, next to Thomas Clarkson Academy.

This decision from the Department for Education means that the school will be able to offer school places for up to 120 students from September 2024, as part of a Phase 1 opening in temporary, modular school buildings and sharing facilities with Thomas Clarkson Academy. A new, permanent school building will also be built alongside this – and students will move across into the new building once it has been completed.

We look forward to seeing you at the Open Evening on Monday 3rd June 5.30pm at Thomas Clarkson Academy.

If you are not able to join us at the Open Evening, please visit www.wisbechfreeschool.co.uk. The website will be updated over the coming days and will explain how you can arrange individual meetings or calls with school leaders over the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

Richard Scott,
Executive Principal, Thomas Clarkson Academy and Wisbech Free School