



16 March 2009

Dear Parent,

To date, no agreement has been reached in the Assembly on the matter of Transfer arrangements for pupils at age 11. On 28th March 2009 a meeting of AQE is to be convened to clarify important issues that attend the administration of the Common Entrance Assessment; subsequently, in April Mrs Rowan and I intend to hold a meeting for P6 parents to provide further information on the Transfer process and to field any questions you may have on the process.

In advance of that meeting I offer some further detail on the Common Entrance Assessment (CEA) produced by the Association for Quality Education (AQE) and enclose AQE's *A Guide for Parents* and a draft implementation timetable.

The AQE Common Entrance Assessment takes account of the learning programme and attainment targets of the Revised KS2 Curriculum for English and Mathematics. The questions set will test the skills, aptitude and knowledge that all pupils will be developing at this Key Stage. The assessment is, therefore, accessible to all pupils studying the Revised KS2 Curriculum in Northern Ireland. Details of the format of the AQE assessment are also enclosed.

The dates for each of the one hour papers have been confirmed as:

Saturday 14th November 2009
Saturday 28th November 2009
Saturday 5th December 2009

Application forms to take the test will be available from Monday 18th May 2009 on the AQE website (www.aqe.org.uk) and from the College. Completed forms must be returned to AQE no later than Friday 18th September 2009.

I appreciate that the uncertainty that surrounds an unregulated situation causes anxiety for pupils, parents and schools; please, be assured this College is working assiduously to try to find the best outcomes for our pupils and the College.

Yours sincerely,

Jay Piggot