



# WHITECLIFFE

## **Henley Camland Statement RE Alkerden Academy**

Alkerden CE Academy, the Education Hub at the Heart of the Whitecliffe Development is one of the key cornerstones in the new Development. We see it as a real benefit to attracting new residents to the growing Community.

The school is an integral part of the education offer for children in the locality - it is an all-through provision that will eventually offer 240 places every year for new year 7 students and 60 places every year for new year R pupils.

As such we are committed to bringing it forward and into use for the children of existing and new residents as soon as is practically possible. Work will commence in April 2022 on site and residents will very quickly see a lot of construction activity. This commencement date is later than was originally planned and is primarily caused by the Covid 19 pandemic.

We have spent the last three months working with our Stakeholder partners, Kent County Council, Ebbsfleet Development Corporation and the Aletheia Academies Trust, investigating ways to accommodate some September 2023 intake within temporary facilities on site.

However, very reluctantly, it has been jointly decided with the stakeholder partners, on Health and Safety Grounds that in the interest of Children and Parent Welfare, the risks of operating a temporary solution in the middle of an ongoing construction site were too great and that the correct decision is to open the Secondary School, Primary School and associated Sports Centre in September 2024.

Work on the Schools will still start on site in April 2022 and the three main buildings should be fully completed ready for handover to Aletheia Academies Trust in late spring 2024.