



Welcome to the January newsletter from the Island Community School Group.

Application latest

Our application to open a Free School on the Island was extremely well received by the New Schools Network and, after some minor clarifications, has now been sent off to the department for Education. A huge vote of thanks to all who contributed to the creation of the application including all the 800 parents who have so far completed expressions of interest supporting our bid.

We must now wait to see if our application is short-listed. If successful we will be given the opportunity to present our case to the Department for Education at interview in the spring.

Final decisions regarding successful applications will be made in early May 2013.

Reaching out to the Wider Community

As part of our application we have stressed our desire to offer a different educational choice to parents on the Island. As part of our continuing advertising campaign we will be holding 2 further information evenings in Bembridge at the Youth and Community Centre on Wednesday 6th February and in Freshwater at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 13th February.

Preparing for Pre-opening

As part of our application to open a Free School we must ensure that we have all of the necessary skills within our team to meet the challenges ahead. As a teacher led group we are confident in our ability to prepare an outstanding curriculum and have developed a clear strategy for staffing and resourcing the school as part of our application.

We are now looking for members of our community to work with us in developing our vision for a site. To complete the team we are looking for people with

experience in marketing, law and site planning/architecture. If you are experienced in any of these areas and would be interested in getting involved please contact us at new.island.school@gmail.com

Music specialism

We have now agreed our admissions policy which makes provision for 10% of places in each year group to be given to pupils with an aptitude for music. Pupils accepted into the school as musical scholars will be given free music lessons and will be supported in developing performance skills as part of the enrichment curriculum. Details of the admissions policy will be shared at a later date.

Once again, thank you for your continual support.

An Island School for Island Families offering outstanding education for all

Kind regards,
The Island Free School Team

Island Free School