



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com
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Dear 1610 Members/Facility users,

I thought I would write again and update you about the future of community use for sport and leisure on the St. Dunstan's School site. As you will know, 1610 have given notice that they intend to leave the site from the end of this calendar year, and therefore cease operating. Until recently, the school had been looking at ways to continue offering a service on the site. We had hoped that this would be possible from April 2019, but further investigation into the lease of the buildings used for community leisure, has presented us with a number of challenges.

The current buildings used by 1610 still belong to Somerset Local Authority (LA) and are therefore not owned by the school. Neither does the school have a right to use the buildings to offer community sport and leisure. To be absolutely clear, we have no legal entitlement to use the buildings currently occupied by 1610 to offer any leisure facility to the public. As you can imagine, this is a deeply irritating situation to be in and causes us as school leaders, a number of issues. However, what this means for the community is that the school is not able to, or indeed entitled to, offer any community provision on the St Dunstan's School site following 1610's departure.

We anticipate that transferring leases will take a significant amount of time and money (legal fees, etc) and therefore we will now not be able to offer any community facilities for sport and leisure until January 2020 at the earliest. In fact, we are still not clear if the LA or the DfE will allow us to take on the lease. **I hope that users will understand that this is not the fault of the school in any way, so I would ask that you please direct any comments or concerns to the Local Authority and not St Dunstan's.**

When we have completed any lease transfers, we will notify the community of our intentions going forward regarding sport and leisure on the site for public use.

Yours sincerely

Alun Williams
CEO and Executive Headteacher MNSP

