

## **Better Together – the merger of Strode’s College with East Berkshire College**

The one month consultation on the merger of Strode’s and East Berkshire Colleges concluded on 21 October.

All schools offering post-16 study and all colleges in Surrey were consulted, together with the local council, MPs in whose constituencies the colleges are located, the Secretary of State of Education and others identified as interested parties. The consultation was publicised to all Strode’s College staff, current students and their parents. The Times national newspaper was notified and a press release was sent to the local papers – The Staines Informer and The Villager.

We received one formal written response supporting the merger. No other views were received.

The result of the consultation confirms there is no reason which would mean the merger cannot proceed.

The Boards of Strode’s and East Berkshire Colleges are planning to meet early December 2016 to take the final decision to proceed with the merger.

The Board of Governors and senior staff of Strode’s College thank all those who took part in the consultation for their time and deliberations in considering the merger proposal.