***St Bees Village School***

***Main Street***

***ST BEES***

***CA27 0AA***

***Headteacher Mrs K Davis***

***Telephone: 01946 822392***

***email: admin@stbeesvillage.cumbria.sch.uk***

­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­Thursday 10th July 2025

**Dear Resident,**

**Re: Consultation on Proposed Perimeter Fence at St Bees Village School**

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you of a proposed development at St Bees Village School and to invite your views as a valued member of our local community.

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and enhancing the educational experience of our pupils, the school—alongside the Changing Lives Learning Trust—is proposing to install a new **2.4-metre perimeter fence** around the school site. This is a vital step in ensuring the safety of our children and will also allow us to make greater use of the school field as part of the curriculum, providing more opportunities for outdoor learning and play.

We are aware that some properties currently have gates that open directly onto the school field. With this in mind, and in the spirit of working collaboratively with our neighbours, we have commissioned **two design options** for the fence:

* **Plan 1**: Includes a **1.5-metre path** between the boundary of your garden and the new fence, maintaining a buffer zone.
* **Plan 2**: Places the fence directly on the school boundary line, with no path included.

We would very much welcome your thoughts on these proposals. The school and the Trust are committed to working with the community to find a solution that balances the needs of the school with the interests of our neighbours.

The school’s Governing Body has already met to discuss the plans and raised several important questions with the project lead. Below are some of the key questions and the responses provided:

* **Why does the fence need to be 2.4 metres high?**
This height is recommended for safeguarding purposes by Ofsted to ensure the site is secure and to meet current safety standards as well as legislation around trespassing.
* **Is there a possibility of stepping the fence in from the boundary line?**
Yes, this is being considered in Plan 1, which includes a 1.5-metre path between the fence and property boundaries.
* **What colour will the fence be?**
The proposed colour is a muted green to blend in with the natural surroundings and minimise visual impact. Please see the images attached
* **What will the fence look like?**
The design will be secure yet sympathetic to the local environment, please see the photos attached
* **How can we maintain access for children to the school without them having to walk on busy roads?**
The new fence will help us manage access points more effectively and safely. The current path that allows children access around the school and means they do not need to walk on main street, will be maintained.

If you have any additional questions or comments you would like to raise, please email **admin@stbeesvillage.cumbria.sch.uk** so that we can ensure your views are considered as part of this consultation. Alternatively, myself and Mrs Lara Robson, the incoming Headteacher from September, will be available to meet in person between 3.45pm and 4.45pm on Tuesday 15th July.

Thank you for your time and for your continued support of St Bees Village School.

Kind regards,



Mrs K. Davis
Headteacher