



## Proposed Eastbourne Academy

East Sussex County Council is working with Sussex Downs College and the University of Brighton to explore whether Eastbourne Technology College (ETC) should become an Academy. An Academy is an all-ability, state-funded independent school established by sponsors (in this case Sussex Downs College and East Sussex County Council). Academies have the freedom to explore a more flexible approach towards learning.

The proposal is that the Academy would:

- Be on the existing ETC site and continue to admit up to 180 students each year as an 11-16 school (the same size, age-range and site as ETC is currently)
- Continue to have the same admissions criteria as other community schools
- Work in close partnership with local primary, secondary and special schools
- Have a new building with state-of-the art facilities
- Open in September 2010 in the existing buildings with a planned move into the new building in 2013 (the timescale is an estimate at this stage)

**All students who are due to start at ETC in September 2010 would automatically become part of the Academy and you would not need to do anything. This would also apply to all existing students who would be at ETC in September 2010.**

The vision of Sussex Downs College, East Sussex County Council and the University of Brighton is that the Academy would:

- Be a school of choice for parents, pupils and staff – that it becomes a full, inclusive and comprehensive school for the local community
- Enable every student to succeed through a curriculum that meets their personal needs and that is delivered in an outstanding physical and technological environment
- Specialise in Science and Digital Technologies, helping young people to develop the skills they will need to succeed in a global economy and multi-cultural society
- Work closely with parents and other schools and Sussex Downs College to ensure pupils transfer from primary school successfully, have a wide range of choices at the Academy and progress at 16 into further learning or employment with training.

The Governors of ETC are supportive of the proposal and believe the Academy would continue the recent improvements at the school and provide better opportunities for existing and future students.

If Government approve the Expression of Interest, the next step would include extensive public consultation where we would talk to local people, students, prospective students, parents, staff, governors and any other interested parties about the proposal to replace ETC with the Academy. We hope this consultation would take place in November and December this year.