

# School principal is confident of academy status

THE possible change to an academy was the central theme at Castle Community College's end of year awards ceremony, marking pupils' outstanding achievements.

College principal Christine Chapman welcomed the change of status, saying it would secure the site for many years to come, but also provide the greatest opportunity for rebuilding of the school in the future.

Mrs Chapman said: "I am confident that a new school will eventually be built."

The school was offered the chance to become an academy because it has been judged outstanding by Ofsted both in 2007 and 2008.

Subsequently, it has been designated a High Perform-

ing Specialist School as well as a lead school for gifted and talented pupils.

Mrs Chapman added: "I am particularly pleased by the continued improvement in the attitude and behaviour of pupils, who have excelled themselves at sport, work experience placements and their commitment to achieving the best possible academic results."

The School Council has continued to thrive, alongside the Anti-Bullying Group, the Sisters Club and the numerous other activities and societies offered in the school.

Mrs Chapman said students were now taking a more serious approach to their studies and early examination entry results were very promising.

Pupils themselves outlined their achievements over the past year and thanked staff for giving them such a wide range of activities and study sessions to help broaden their interests and improve their career prospects. Speeches were made by Marc Richards and Jordan Graham in Year 7, Jorden Evans and Georgia Lawson in Year 8.

Katie Simmonds spoke about her time as a Year 11 pupil.

A consultation runs until tomorrow (Friday) where parent, pupils and members of the public can express their views on the prospect of the school becoming an academy.

■ **To register your opinion, visit the school's website at: [www.castlecommunitycollege.co.uk](http://www.castlecommunitycollege.co.uk)**