



Aylsham Cluster



Buxton Primary School

Changing to Foundation School status and acquiring a Charitable Trust – The Aylsham Cluster Trust

YOUR VIEWS - Consultation questionnaire

Please fill in the consultation questionnaire below. If you need more space, please feel free to attach separate sheets, marked with the relevant question numbers.

Thank you.

Mike Jackson

Chair of Governor

1. Foundation Status

In acquiring Foundation status, the Governing Body will assume new responsibilities, including the employment of staff and the admission of students to the school (within National & LA guidelines). In addition, it will hold the land and assets 'on trust' for the school. The Governing Body will have responsibility for managing the assets. This will give each school some more freedoms to meet the learning needs of our community.

Question 1: How do you feel about your school changing its status to become a Foundation School?

I think the school should become a Foundation school

I do not think the school should become a Foundation school

I do not know

If you like, you can explain your response in the box below. If you answered 'I do not know', you can request more information on any aspect of the proposal to change the school's status from a Community school to a Foundation school.

2. Trust status.

A Trust School is a Foundation School supported by a charitable Trust that holds the land and assets 'on trust' for the benefit of the learners. Trustees are represented on the Governing Body, and the Governing Body is represented on the Trust Board. The creation of a shared Trust will enable long term relationships to be established with schools and new partners from the wider community with the resources and expertise to assist with the development of the schools for the benefit of all students. This will include seeking additional funding to up-grade learning facilities.

Question 2: How do you feel about your school acquiring a Trust?

I think the school should acquire a Trust

I do not think the school should acquire a Trust

I do not know

If you like, you can explain your response in the box below. If you answered 'I do not know', you can request more information on any aspect of the proposal to establish a Trust.

3. Partnerships

The Governors of our school are proposing to establish, through a shared Trust, long-term partnerships with the following organisations. The partners will share our commitment to the cluster's ambition to extend our successful informal collaboration into a sustainable, formal partnership – to lay down a legacy that will ensure that children, families and the wider community are supported to maximise their potential in the rapidly changing world of the 21st Century.

The Trust will have an ethos of co-operation and democracy, consistent with the globally shared co-operative values. It will seek to empower learners and the community to achieve its aim of raising achievement and expectation of learning, recognising that tomorrow's learners will live in an increasingly global economy, facing the challenges posed by rapid environmental and economic change.

Question 3: Do you think that the school should develop long-term partnerships and work with the following organisations to achieve its educational aims?

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Aylsham Cluster schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City College Norwich	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Sainsbury Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The National Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Benjamin Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Norfolk County Council Childrens Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
East of England Cooperative Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you like, you can explain any of your responses in the box below. If you answered 'I do not know' for an organisation, you can request more information.

Do you think that there are other organisations with which the school should consider working? If yes, please provide details in the box below

4. The Governing Body

The governors propose that the Trust should appoint a minority of governors. Two Trust appointed governors would become members of our school’s Governing Body. This would bring in expertise from our partners, but they would not have overall control and the majority of governors would still be elected parents.

Question 4: Do you think this new Governing Body model is right for the school?

- Yes, this sounds like a good idea
- Yes, but I have some concerns
- Yes, but I would prefer the Trust to appoint even more governors
- No, I do not agree with this proposal
- I do not know

If you like, you can explain any of your responses in the box below. If you answered 'I do not know', you can request more information.

5. Parent and Stakeholder views

We are planning to establish a Stakeholder Council as a key element of our proposed Co-operative Trust model, with elected members including parents, staff, learners and community organisations. Its purpose is to hold the Trust to account, to help shape policies and to elect a minority of trustees.

Question 5: Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes

No

I do not know

If you like, you can explain any of your responses in the box below. If you answered 'I do not know', you can request more information.

6. Other General Comments

Question 6. Do you have any other comments, concerns or suggestions that we should consider?

It would be useful in analysing responses if you could provide us with your contact details, especially if you represent a particular organisation, **but you do not need to do so.**

Please return your completed questionnaire to the school **by February 7th 2011** either by post or delivered by hand to the school office.

Thank you.

Name:

Parent/Carer

Staff

Other (please specify).....

Your Views: how you respond

The consultation period is from **Jan 10th 2011 to Feb 7th 2011 (4 weeks)**

You can take part in the consultation process by:

- returning the questionnaire
- writing to the Headteacher with your comments by post or email (marked "Trust Consultation")
- attending a consultation meeting
- parents can ask to see the nominated parent governor (Matthew Fruish) This can be arranged by the Headteacher at the school)
- staff can arrange a meeting with the nominated staff governor (Mary Stevens)

The consultation meetings will be held thus: -

Location	Date and Time for Parents/Wider Community Consultation meeting	Date and Time for Staff Consultation meeting
Buxton Primary School	Thurs 27 th Jan 2011 at 2pm til 3pm	Thurs 27 th Jan 2011 at 3.15pm til 4pm

If you need any more detailed information, two booklets are available –

Booklet One - 'Changing to Foundation School Status and Acquiring a Charitable Trust'.

Booklet Two – 'Changing Status / Questions and Answers'

These are available on the school's website or on request from the school.

The school's website address is– **www.buxtonschool.co.uk/**

Next Steps

The consultation period ends on **Feb 7th 2011**. A report of the consultation responses and governors' feedback will be posted on our website thereafter. The Governing Body will then meet to decide whether: -

- a) to go ahead with the proposal to become a foundation school and acquire charitable status.
- b) to amend the proposal, taking into account comments received during the consultation period and then consult you again, or
- c) to remain a community school.

If our Governing Body decides on option a or b, formal proposals will be published in the second half of the spring term term, and you will have a further opportunity to express your views on those proposals.

***How well did we do?**

We aimed to meet the following criteria in this consultation: -

- Consult widely
- Make all aspects of the proposals clear
- Ensure that the documents are concise and accessible
- Give feedback on responses and show how the consultation influenced the outcome.

As part of your response, please feel free to comment on how well we have met these criteria, and to suggest ways of further improving the consultation process.