



## Site Consultation:

From 6 January 2016 to 4 February 2017

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# 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. New Generation Schools Trust (NGST) takes seriously the need to consult as community engagement is an extremely vital part of the strategy to build a locally-owned and needed school community, and an essential aspect of NGST ethos as an organisation committed to building and strengthening local communities. In line with requirements within Section 10 of the Academies Act 2010 for appropriate consultation, we also see it as non-negotiable in order to develop the school that our families and their children need and want. We have, therefore, consulted widely on the Free School proposal for the setting up of Hope Community School (HCS) proposed to open September 2017 with the first cohort of two Reception classes.
- 1.2. This Site Consultation is in addition to the previous Section 10 Consultation, undertaken by NGST from 4 January 2016 to 14 February 2016. The final report for the Section 10 Consultation is available on the HCS website. The results of this survey confirmed that 67% of respondents either 'strongly agreeing' or 'agreeing' that 'a new Primary school is needed in the area' – thus confirming the community need for HCS. This is in comparison to 23% either 'strongly disagreeing' or 'disagreeing' that a school is needed. The remaining 10% expressed 'no view' in response to this question.
- 1.3. The Site Consultation specifically regarded the permanent home for HCS; 20-25 Chapel Road, Southampton, S014 5GL which will be a purpose built facility providing a state-of-the-art environment for teaching and learning. Due to minor changes being made to HCS Admissions Policy it was decided to also include this as part of the consultation.<sup>1</sup>
- 1.4. The formal Site Consultation began on 6 January 2017 and concluded on 4 February, thus giving 4 weeks outside of holiday times for stakeholders to reflect and respond.
- 1.5. We initiated contact with stakeholders to ensure we achieved a good breadth of engagement with the community including: parents and carers, local residents, staff in Early Years settings, Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, local community groups and organisations, and local faith groups. Information was distributed to stakeholders directly surrounding the Chapel Road site, as well as to local businesses, politicians, the Local Authority, and other interested groups (*See section 2.4: Table of Stakeholders, Methods of Publicity and Methods of Consultation*). The Site Consultation was promoted by HCS on social media platforms generating **114** responses and coverage on the school website generated **28** responses; printed leaflets were circulated, as well as emails and phone calls. We also made contact with respondents from the previous consultation. We held a public meeting about the school which gave an opportunity for members of the local community to view the outline plans, to hear the Principals vision and to share their hopes and expectations and to ask their questions.
- 1.6. We are therefore confident that we have reached the wider community and provided its diverse constituents with an opportunity to engage in the consultation process.

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<sup>1</sup> No comments were received about the proposed alterations to the HCS Admission Policy.

- 1.7. A total of **142** completed questionnaires were submitted, an increase of **82%** from the previous consultation. The responses are summarised below.
- 1.8. Out of the 142 responses **83%** (118 responses) agreed that HCS should be located at this site, whilst **4%** (6 responses) stated that HCS should not be located at this site. A further **13%** (18 responses) did not know.
- 1.9. The consultation also showed a majority support for the Department for Education (DfE) to enter into a Funding Agreement with NGST, with **86%** (120 responses) in agreement, against only **3%** (4); 11% (16 respondents) did not know.
- 1.10. Overall, we conclude that the results of the Site Consultation demonstrate overwhelming support for HCS being located at the Chapel Road site.

As part of the consultation process we received feedback questioning proximity of the site to the railway line and level crossing; designated flood risk area; increased traffic congestion and noise pollution from the Industrial site; staff and parent car parking; safety of children due to neighbouring College and a high number of commercial vehicles accessing the Industrial Estate through to provision of outside play and study areas.

It is clear from responses that the site is *'positioned in a community that needs school places'*, whilst offering families more choice in the SO14 area. A view shared by many is that the Chapel Road site is a *'Brilliant location'* which is *'easily accessible for the local community. 'Good redevelopment of run-down piece of land' that will 'improve facilities in this area of the city centre'*. The site is also close to Central Hall which will help maintain strong links the with the School's partner New Community Church.

- 1.11. We will continue to communicate with all stakeholders and groups to make sure we listen to their feedback and concerns. We will be publishing the key findings of our consultation process through our website. We are keen to show that we want to be responsive to all comments made. Where individual respondents have asked questions or made suggestions we have responded to them directly or will make sure we respond to them in due course. We will also demonstrate through contact with parents, carers, pupils and staff that we have heard them and will act on the suggestions proposed where possible.

## 2. Consultation Scope and Methods

- 2.1. The table in section 2.4 lists the stakeholders and the methods used to inform them of the consultation and the methods used to record their views
- 2.2. In order to ensure a meaningful consultation, and to reduce the possibility of non-participation of stakeholders, respondents were offered a number of ways of participating in the consultation. This included: accepting consultation responses online, through the HCS website, social media platforms and providing printed copies of the questionnaire.
- 2.3. In order to engage parents and carers in the wider community, NGST and the HCS team have engaged in a number of ways both prior to and during the consultation period. It was our aim to engage those parents and carers who would not only consider sending their children to HCS in September 2017, but with those who may choose HCS in future years. Our approach has been not only to work with the projects in the community but to engage parents and carers in and around pre-school groups.

A total of **142** completed questionnaires were submitted, an **increase of 82%** from the previous consultation. We are therefore confident that we have reached the wider community and provided its diverse constituents with an opportunity to engage in the consultation process.

### 2.4. Table of Stakeholders, Methods of Publicity and Methods of Consultation

The local team have been regularly engaging local community groups on the progress of the HCS project.

Methods of Publicity	Methods of consultation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion at parent engagement events</li> <li>• Leaflet distribution to local businesses, community organisations in close proximity to the proposed site. Included link to survey and information about the consultation meeting</li> <li>• Online publicity (HCS Website and Social Media)</li> <li>• Direct emails to HCS database</li> <li>• Direct emails to stakeholders</li> <li>• Parents' and carers drop in and monthly Community Play Party</li> <li>• Meetings with individual parents and carers</li> <li>• Home visits</li> <li>• Meetings with various stakeholders</li> <li>• Leaflet distribution to local preschools, primary schools, nurseries, churches, health care providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online survey responses</li> <li>• Hard copy of survey responses</li> <li>• One Public Consultation meeting</li> <li>• Email contributions to the consultation process</li> </ul>

Below are some of the groups that team members have talked with or presented to in the consultation period.

Stakeholder group	
Project Steering Group	20 members representing various stakeholder agencies and partners
Shadow Hope Council Members	7 members
Community Partners	New Community Church John Lewis CLEAR ETCH UK Ltd Alder Trust Aldermoor Community Farm Paint Pots Nurseries
Prospective parents/carers	HCS 2017/18 database
Early Years Settings	Paint Pots Nurseries, Play Away Nursery, Sunrise Nursery, YMCA Newtown, Start Point Nursery, YMCA Woolston, Woolston Pre School, Sure Start Northam, Sure Start Clovelly, Tiny Treasures
Local primary school head teachers, and governing bodies	St. Marys C of E, Bannister Park, Bevios Town, Mount Pleasant, Maytree Infants, Spring Hill Catholic, Fitrah Sips, Mansbridge, St. Johns.
Local secondary school head teachers, and governing bodies	St. Annes, Oasis Academy Mayfield, Cantell School, Southampton City College.
Southampton City Council	Ross Williams (Admissions Manager), Kevin Verdon (Interim School-based Planning Officer) Glenda Lane (Governance and Leadership Adviser School Improvement)
SACRE (Standing Advisory Council Religious Education)	Councillor James Baillie Councillor Valerie Laurent Councillor John Jordan Alison Philpott (enquiries)
Mayor	Councillor Cathie McEwing
Sheriff	Councillor Les Harris
MPs	Alan Whitehead MP Royston Smith MP Caroline Nokes MP
Ward Councillors	<b>Bargate:</b> Cllr John Noon Cllr Sarah Bogle

	<p>Cllr Darren Paffey</p> <p><b>Bassett:</b></p> <p>Cllr Les Harris</p> <p>Cllr Beryl Harris</p> <p>Cllr John Hannides</p> <p><b>Bevios:</b></p> <p>Cllr Jacqui Rayment</p> <p>Cllr Derek Burke</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Barnes-Andrews</p> <p><b>Bitterne:</b></p> <p>Cllr John Jordan</p> <p>Cllr Simon Letts</p> <p>Cllr Frances Murphy</p> <p><b>Bitterne Park:</b></p> <p>Cllr David Fuller</p> <p>Cllr John Inglis</p> <p>Cllr Ivan White</p> <p><b>Coxford:</b></p> <p>Cllr Don Thomas</p> <p>Cllr Keith Morrell</p> <p>Cllr Tammy Thomas</p> <p><b>Freemantle:</b></p> <p>Cllr Brian Parnell</p> <p>Cllr Jeremy Moulton</p> <p>Cllr David Shields</p> <p><b>Harefield:</b></p> <p>Cllr Daniel Fitzhenry</p> <p>Cllr Peter Baillie</p> <p>Cllr Valerie Laurent</p> <p><b>Millbrook:</b></p> <p>Cllr David Furnell</p> <p>Cllr Michael Denness</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Taggart</p> <p><b>Peartree:</b></p> <p>Cllr Alex Houghton</p> <p>Cllr Paul Lewzey</p> <p>Cllr Eammonn Keogh</p> <p><b>Portswood:</b></p> <p>Cllr Matthew Ciaisie</p> <p>Cllr Paul O'Neill</p> <p>Cllr John Savage</p> <p><b>Redbridge:</b></p> <p>Cllr Andrew Pope</p> <p>Cllr Cathie McEwing</p> <p>Cllr Lee Whitbread</p> <p><b>Shirley:</b></p> <p>Cllr Satvir Kaur</p> <p>Cllr Hannah Coombs</p> <p>Cllr Mark Chaloner</p> <p><b>Sholing:</b></p> <p>Cllr graham Wilkinson</p> <p>Cllr Nigel Hecks</p>
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	<p>Cllr Daniel Jeffery  <b>Swaythling:</b>  Cllr Spiros Vassiliou  Cllr Bob Painton  Cllr Sharon Mintoff  <b>Woolston:</b>  Cllr Warwick Payne  Cllr Sarah Blatchford  Cllr Christopher Hammond</p>
Cabinet Members	<p>Councillor Simon Letts (leader of the Council)  Councillor Warwick Payne Cabinet Member for Housing &amp; Adult Care  Councillor Mark Chaloner Cabinet Member for Finance  Councillor Jacqui Rayment Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport  Councillor Dave Shields Cabinet Member for Health &amp; Sustainable Living  Councillor Satvir Kaur Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Leisure  Councillor Christopher Hammond Cabinet Member for Transformation Projects  Councillor Darren Paffey Cabinet Member for Education &amp; Skills  Councillor Paul Lewzey Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care</p>
Local Healthcare providers / community & public health organisations	Nicholos Town Surgery, Newtown Surgery, St. Marys Surgery
Emergency Services	Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service, Hampshire Police Constabulary
Local Community Groups, Charities and Sports Clubs	St. Marys Leisure Centre, CLEAR, Kingsland Community centre, Northam Community Centre, Southampton Voluntary Services.
Local Faith Groups	Southampton Christian Network, Love Southampton, Citylife, Southampton Council of Faiths, Muslim Council of Southampton, New Community Network, Life Church (New Frontiers), Parish Office, Riverside Family Church, James Street Church, Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Gurdwara Nanaksar, Above Bar Church
Local Business	Discover Southampton, Business South, John Lewis, Etch UK Ltd, Tesco, British Heart Foundation, Afro City, Rice up, Basepoint Business centres, Central Trading Estate, Stricklands Body repairs, G's Store, Royle Jackson, Burton Roofing Merchants, Spice world, Lloyds Pharmacy, St. Marys Carpets, St. Marys chippy, Atlantic Launderette/Dry Cleaning Services, Local Newsagents and Super markets x15



## **2.5 Early Years Settings**

Contact was made with local Early Years settings as detailed in the above table. Communication with all Early Years groups is continuing.

- Pre-Schools
- Nurseries
- Parent and Toddler groups

### **2.5.1 Primary and Secondary School Heads,**

Primary and secondary schools as listed above were emailed directly during the consultation process and invited to complete the online survey. The email gave web-links to the HCS website and the online survey as well information about the Public Meeting. Communication and contact with local Primary Schools is ongoing.

### **2.5.2 Southampton City Council**

NGST and HCS team members continue to build and work within positive relationships with Southampton City Council officers, and the LA has two representatives, Ross Williams (Admissions Manager), Kevin Verdon (Interim School-based Planning Officer), who are on the HCS Project Steering Group. Contact was also made with Glenda Lane (Governance and Leadership Adviser School Improvement).

### **2.5.3 Local businesses**

Emails and leaflets were distributed to local businesses in S014 area and Central Trading Estate as part of the wider mailshot campaign. As a result, 1 respondent who attended the public meeting identified themselves as a 'local business'.

### **2.5.4 Local MPs and Local Councillors**

Input into the consultation was invited from all local MPs, as well as all Ward Councillors and SACRE as detailed in the above table.

### **2.5.5 Local Healthcare providers / community & public health organisations**

Publicity and information were distributed to these organisations as part of the wider mailshot campaign.

### **2.5.6 Local Community Groups**

Publicity and information were emailed and leaflets were distributed to these groups as part of the wider mailshot campaign.

### **2.5.7 Emergency services**

Representatives were invited to participate in the consultation process, made aware of the date of the public meeting, and given links to the schools website. Hampshire Fire Safety Support Unit responded on the 24/1/17. Information has been passed onto the Education Funding Agency for their consideration.

### **2.5.8 Local Faith Groups**

When planning the consultation we recognised the significant role that local churches and other faith groups<sup>2</sup> would have in enabling us to reach the wider community.

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<sup>2</sup> Please refer to Stakeholder Group table above for list of Faith Groups contacted during consultation period.



The relationships with different congregations and groups have ensured that we have been able to spread information quickly through volunteers and helpers.

A range of faith groups were emailed directly during the consultation process and invited to complete the online survey. The email gave web-links to the HCS website and the online survey. The Southampton Christian Network, a broad network of Christian churches and organisations in the Southampton area promoted the consultation through their website and Social Media Platforms. Other churches including New Community Church, a partner of HCS, has shared regular information at meetings throughout the consultation period.

## **2.6. Public Site Consultation Meeting**

As part of this consultation, one public consultation meeting was hosted by NGST on Tuesday 31 January. The meeting was advertised on the school website, distributed flyers and an email letter of invitation was distributed to stakeholders.

A total of 11 attended the meeting. Attendees had the opportunity to meet members of the NGST team. NGST CEO Paul Weston, Principal Steve Wright, Project Director Mary Rouse, Project Manager Phil Ball and Family Liaison Co-ordinator Claire Rodgers. The Education Funding Agency, responsible for site development were represented by Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison. The meeting covered the major issues addressed in the consultation and provided an opportunity for any questions to be raised and answered.

The NGST team stayed after the close of the meetings to continue discussions with attendees and provide them with the opportunity to ask any further questions.<sup>3</sup>

A summary of the questions asked is provided in section 4 below. (See also Appendix 1)

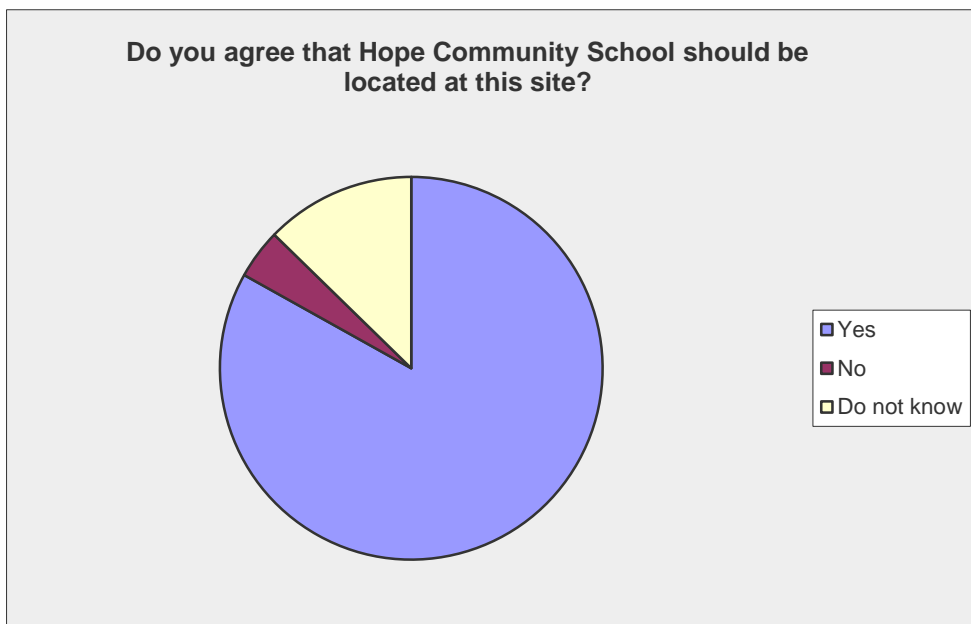
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<sup>3</sup> Any questions asked after the meeting had formally closed were not recorded.

### 3. Analysis of Questionnaire Responses

- 3.1. NGST published detailed information on the HCS website and a printed prospectus, outlining its vision for transforming education and the community through the school were made available at the Public Consultation meeting alongside the survey questionnaire.
- 3.2. A copy of the consultation questionnaire is available in Appendix 2.

Q1: Do you agree that Hope Community School should be located at this site?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	83.1%	118
No	4.2%	6
Do not know	12.7%	18
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>142</b>
<b><i>skipped question</i></b>		<b>0</b>



All comments included within the report (*italicised*) have not been edited unless there were significant grammatical or language errors submitted by the respondent which was detrimental to the comment being understood or to protect a respondent's identity. Additions will be identified in ***Bold Italics***.

## Q2: What are the positives you see about the site?

Answer Options	Response Count
	142
<i>answered question</i>	<b>142</b>
<i>skipped question</i>	<b>0</b>

Responses have been grouped into the following themes:

For a full list of responses please see Appendix 3.

### Location & Accessibility

Respondents stated that the Chapel Road site was an excellent location for HCS as it *is central to the area it serves and being purpose built, and can accommodate the requirements for a primary school, as well as being 'easy to access by public transport.'*

Other sample responses.

- *Space to plan a proper school in the area where the families need it.*
- *The proximity to the city centre and the City centre housing estates.*
- *In catchment for many children from all backgrounds needing education.*
- *Central location in **SO14**. Redevelops the area for the future.*
- *Positioned in a part of a community that needs a purpose built education facility.*
- *Easily accessible for those living in the SO14 area.*
- *Central to city and good public transport access.*
- *A busy community with a lot of children A good central location.*
- *Brilliant location for people who live central to get to.*
- *Close to homes and the city centre- so accessible to lots of people.*
- *It is near New Community Church who are key sponsors of the school.*
- *Superb provision for the local community.*

### Choice of Schools & Places

Respondents were positive, that by locating HCS at the Chapel Road site it would *'fulfil a need for school places in the local area,'* and provide families with *'another choice to release spaces at other schools in the area'.*

Other sample responses.

- *It's positioned in a community that needs school places and will benefit and enrich the local community.*
- *Another city centre school is needed. This site is vacant/free and seems sensible to redevelop for this purpose.*
- *New school needed in the local area, new homes being built in the area.*
- *In the centre of where need for the school is greatest.*
- *More choice, different style of school pretty central to everyone.*
- *Good site for school there is a need for more school choices.*
- *A school in the local area will be great!*

A total of 4 respondents made 'no comment' and 11 did not wish their comments to be included in the report. Several respondents (4) did not know anything about the site.

**Q3: Do you have any concerns about the site?**

Answer Options	Response Count
	142
<b>answered question</b>	<b>142</b>
	<b>0</b>

Respondents concerns about locating HCS at the Chapel Road site predominantly ranged from parking provision for staff and families, the 'increased traffic during the school run.' Concerns about HCS being situated next to the railway line was a common theme as well as the additional noise, traffic and pollution from the industrial site. Some concerns were expressed over the neighbouring college and 'safety of children going to and from the site needs to be thought about carefully'. Respondents also expressed their concerns as to whether HCS would have adequate external play and learning areas.

Other sample responses.

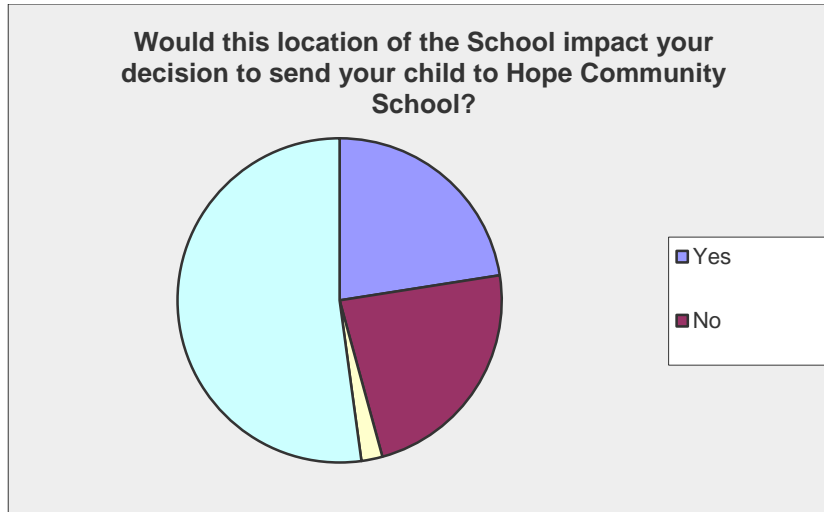
- *The train crossing directly next door. This train can sometimes sit at the crossing for 25 mins causing traffic to back up. No unmetered parking facilities on the road directly outside.*
- *Care will need to be taken with local traffic, which could be a high proportion of HGVs and commercial vans as it's an industrial estate.*
- *Missed opportunities for sharing a site and the strong connections that would have provided.*
- *No 100% happy.*
- *Proximity to railway, especially when people are running late. Will they risk running across the tracks?*

The **majority** of respondents (65%) had **no concerns** about the site and 6 did not wish their comments to be included in the report whilst 1 stated that they had no concerns about the site itself they were 'opposed to new faith schools being set up'.

For a full list of responses please see Appendix 3.

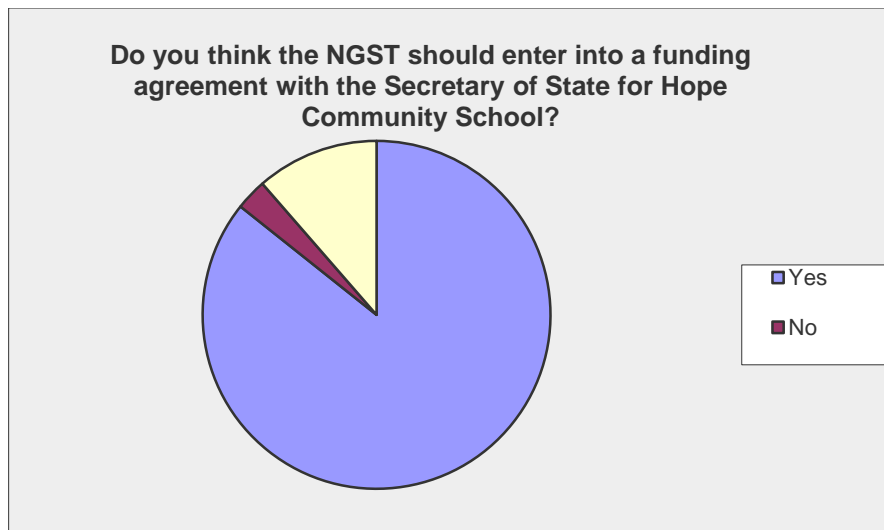
**Q4: Would this location of the School impact your decision to send your child to Hope Community School?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	22.5%	32
No	23.2%	33
Do not know	2.1%	3
Not Applicable	52.1%	74
<b>answered question</b>		<b>142</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>0</b>



**Q 5: Do you think the New Generation Schools Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Hope Community School? This would mean that the Department of Education would fund HCS when it opens, with New Generation Schools Trust as the sponsor. (The school cannot open without this Funding Agreement in place.)**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	85.7%	120
No	2.9%	4
Do not know	11.4%	16
<i>answered question</i>		<b>140</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>2</b>



## Admissions Arrangements

As part the consultation process we also consulted about the proposed Admission Arrangements for HCS which have been updated with the DfE to be fully compliant with the School Admissions Code. The Admissions Policy with highlighted changes was made available on the School's website and respondents were asked to send any comments to the managed email address [consultation@hopecommunityschool.org](mailto:consultation@hopecommunityschool.org). No concerns or questions were raised.

<b>If you have any other comments, please add these below. Alternatively, you can email your comments to <a href="mailto:consultation@hopecommunityschool.org">consultation@hopecommunityschool.org</a></b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
No comment	100.0%	116
Comment		14
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>116</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>26</b>

The majority of the 14 comments received support HCS being located at the Chapel Road site and that 'Hope school will be a valuable addition to the other excellent schools in Southampton'. A local early year's provider said, 'I believe there is a need for a school here, not just any school but one that will build strong links within the community and businesses around it'. At the heart of HCS aspirations is to inspire children to learn and experience beyond the four walls of a classroom. We are partnering local businesses and community organisations in order to offer practical and vocational opportunities as well as traditional pathways of learning.

### Responses

- *Despite government funding, the Christian ethos of the school should be protected from intrusive political correctness.*
- *Build this school.*
- *I am pleased to see that a good SO14 site has been located.*
- *Really excited about another local school choice for my daughter.*
- *This is going to be good for our area.*
- *Very glad that the school is not to be sited at Central Hall.*
- *Really want this school to open.*

One respondent did not wish their comment to be included in the report and 3 respondents submitted the following responses.

- *I would have hoped for a better site. I am concerned about my child's safety, getting them to and from school.*
- *I am concerned that children will not get a full and balanced education from the school.*
- *I do not believe that faith schools of any type should have a place in our society. Children should not be exposed to religious indoctrination.*

**If you would like to be kept informed of developments about Hope Community School then please provide us with your email address below.**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
No thanks	100.0%	103
Email address		34
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>103</b>
<b><i>skipped question</i></b>		<b>39</b>

**Please indicate below whether or not your comments can be included in the final report. All comments will be anonymised prior to publication, and the report will be made available on our website.**

<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
I am happy for my comments to be included in the final report	91.4%	117
I do not want my comments to be included in the final report	8.6%	11
<b><i>answered question</i></b>		<b>128</b>
<b><i>skipped question</i></b>		<b>14</b>



## 4. Qualitative Response from Public Meeting

- 4.1. The public site consultation meeting listed in Section 2.6 was transcribed and a representation of the questions and answers is presented in the following table. (Please see Appendix 1 for Minutes)
- 4.2. **Table of questions and responses representative of those given at public consultation meeting**

Questions raised at consultation meeting	Responses given to questions
Are we confident of being granted planning permission?	<p><i>Response by Education Funding Agency (EFA) Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <p><i>A pre-application planning submission and meeting with the Local Authority has taken place to discuss the proposed plans for the site. Formal feedback has been received.</i></p>
How have we overcome flood concerns and restrictions?	<p><i>Response by EFA Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <p><i>In consultation with the Local Authority the EFA have assessed and revised the risks to overcome flood concerns and restrictions. Any mitigating/remedial actions will form part of the Planning Application yet to be submitted.</i></p>
General comments were raised about the possibility of increased traffic and congestion during the school run, the lack of car parking surrounding the site, and the close proximity of school to the railway line / level crossing. These concerns are reflective of wider data that has been received throughout the consultation period. (Please refer to consultation question 3 above).	<p><i>Response by EFA Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <p><i>Any concerns about the site can be raised during the formal Planning Application process. We will be seeking planning permission for the proposed schemes of work to enable construction to commence. We are forecasting completion during 2019 at this stage.</i></p>
Where is the temporary site for the school going to be located?	<p><i>Response by EFA Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <p><i>The proposed school will open in temporary accommodation from September 2017 and the EFA are in advanced stages of securing a site in the SO14 area. AR confirmed that the site being considered is not the former</i></p>

	<i>Academy site.</i>
Are there a minimum number of pupils required to make the school financially viable?	<i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director)</i>  <i>HCS will open with two reception classes (60 pupils). The numbers of applications received is positive however we can open on a smaller number of pupils. We are currently working with the DfE to develop a financially sustainable model based on HCS being 100%, 80% and 50% full.</i>
How many applications are 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice preferences?	<i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director).</i>  <i>We have met with the Local Authority Admissions Manager who is in the process of compiling this information.</i>
Have we appointed any staff?	<i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director).</i>  <i>We have appointed our Principal Steve Wright and are currently advertising for 2 Class Teachers for September 2017. We are unable to confirm / appoint teaching and support staff positions until Funding Agreement has been signed. The project is on track so we are anticipating that Funding Agreement will be in place by the end of March.</i>

- 4.3.** In summary, meeting with local stakeholders provided the opportunity to view the initial plans in more detail, and ask questions to address any concerns they may have. These included:
- Locating HCS in a designated flood area.
  - Increased traffic and congestion during the school run.
  - Lack of car parking surrounding the site.
  - Proximity of HCS to the railway line / level crossing.

## 5. Conclusions

*A great provision for the local community. Thank you for opening!*

- 5.1. Out of the **142** responses **83%** (118 responses) agreed that HCS should be located at this site, whilst 4% (6 responses) stated that HCS should not be located at this site. A further 13% (18 responses) did not know.

Respondents concerns about locating HCS at the Chapel Road site predominantly ranged from parking provision for staff and families, the *'increased traffic during the school run.'* Concerns about HCS being situated next to the railway line was a common theme as well as the additional noise, traffic and pollution from the industrial site. Some concerns were expressed over the neighbouring college and *'safety of children going to and from the site needs to be thought about carefully'*. Respondents also expressed their concerns as to whether HCS would have adequate external play and learning areas.

As part of the consultation respondents also stated whether the location of HCS would impact their decision to send their child to HCS. The results were inconclusive and therefore cannot be read or interpreted positively or negatively without further research.

The results of the survey, taken together with the consultation meeting held with local stakeholders have informed the view that whilst there are a small minority with specific objections to the planned opening of HCS in addition to the site location, the majority are in favour of the proposed site and see the planned opening of HCS to be an exciting and positive development for the local area, and share the vision of education and community that NGST have outlined.

- *Great location right in the heart of the community.*
- *Good location for families.*
- *Close to centre of town, good local transport links.*

Overall, we conclude that the results of the Site Consultation demonstrate overwhelming support for HCS being located at the Chapel Road site.

The consultation also showed a majority support for the Department for Education to enter into a Funding Agreement with NGST, with 86% (120 responses) in agreement, against only 4 (3%); 16 respondents (11%) did not know.

However, in the spirit of genuine engagement and enquiry, NGST wishes to listen to those voices that expressed opposition, and where possible reduce this resistance by providing further information and responding to the requests for clarification or further information. Where opposition continues we remain resolute to our commitment to provide regular and open communication with all stakeholders.

The consultation process has been invaluable in facilitating engagement with the community as a whole and with the wide array of stakeholders. The outcomes of engaging with the widest possible range of people will prove invaluable in future months and years when the Hope Community School team can build upon the relationships formed during this consultation phase.

## 6. Further Work

- 6.1 Moving forward, NGST is committed to the following:-
- 6.1.2 Developing clear lines of communication with relevant stakeholders and keeping them informed of progress i.e. updating the website provided for all the community, planning a series of learning engagement events to prepare children for starting school, continuing with our monthly Community Play Party, running networking events for prospective parents/carers; meeting with local school leaders and community representatives; as well as conducting ongoing consultation – as we will always want to engage with our local community as the School opens and develops.
  - 6.1.3 Researching and reviewing the key issues raised by the consultation, such as: Adequate outdoor play and study areas at the permanent site, increased traffic and congestion during the school run; the lack of car parking and the close proximity of school to the railway line / level crossing; concerns around safety due neighbouring college and industrial estate, e.g. commercial traffic; developments on temporary site arrangements for the school and responding to concerns over any faith-related issues.
  - 6.1.4 We are continuing to work with SCC & the DfE to ensure the proposed HCS is ready to open in September 2017.
  - 6.1.5 Continuing to develop relationships with key local agencies, both statutory and voluntary.
  - 6.1.6 Developing relationships with local schools and communicating the vision of the HCS to prospective parents and carers.
  - 6.1.7 Developing links with local businesses,<sup>4</sup> charities and partners that will enrich the educational provision at HCS.

**Signed on behalf of New Generation Schools Trust Community Schools Trust**



**Paul Weston, Chair, New Generation Schools Trust  
February 2017**

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<sup>4</sup> A national Department Store chain has agreed a partnership with HCS and has a local representative on the HCS Shadow Hope Council.

# Appendix 1

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING – MINUTES

**Date:** Tuesday 31 January 2017, 13.00 – 14.30pm

**Venue:** Central Hall, St. Mary St, Southampton, SO14 1NF

	Item	Summary
1.	<b>Welcome</b>	<p>Paul Weston, NGST CEO, provided a warm welcome and explained the purpose of the meeting, introduced members of the HCS Project team including Principal Steve Wright and representatives from the Education Funding Agency.</p> <p>11 Adults and 2 Children were in attendance.</p>
2.	<b>NGST Journey of the Trust</b>	<p>Paul Weston gave a short presentation explaining the vision and structure of New Generation Schools Trust who is the sponsor of HCS in Sidcup and Southampton.</p>
3.	<b>Teaching, learning and ethos</b>	<p>Steve Wright provided a summary of HCS educational vision and core priorities.</p> <div data-bbox="603 1048 1268 1639" style="text-align: center;"> </div>

		<p>The infographic features a central illustration of a school building with a bell tower and a sun. Surrounding it are several blue rounded rectangular boxes containing text: 'Teaching and Learning' (top center), 'Mastery of core skills' (top left), 'Project based curriculum' (top right), 'Partnership with local businesses' (bottom left), and 'Partnership with local charities and churches' (bottom right). Above the 'Teaching and Learning' box is an icon of a book with 'ABC' on it. Above the 'Project based curriculum' box is an icon of a globe with a magnifying glass. Below the central school building are logos for 'John Lewis', 'newcommunity CHURCH', 'clear', and 'elder trust'. There are also smaller logos for 'ETC' and 'Pain Pals'.</p>
4.	Q&A	<p>Paul Weston thanked people for attending and invited people to share their opinions and to ask any questions related to HCS to the panel. (Mary Rouse (Project Director), Steve Wright (Principal), Amjid Raza (EFA Project Director), Andrew Harrison (Project Manager))</p> <p><b>Are we confident of being granted planning permission?</b>  <i>Response by Education Funding Agency (EFA) Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A pre-application planning submission and meeting with the Local Authority has taken place to discuss the proposed plans for the site. Formal feedback has been received.</li> </ul> <p><b>How have we overcome flood concerns and restrictions?</b>  <i>Response by Education Funding Agency (EFA) Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In consultation with the Local Authority the EFA have assessed and revised the risks to overcome flood concerns and restrictions. Any mitigating/remedial actions will form part of the Planning Application yet to be submitted.</li> </ul> <p><b>General comments were raised about the possibility of increased traffic and congestion during the school run, the lack of car parking surrounding the site, and the close proximity of school to the railway line / level crossing. These concerns are reflective of wider data that has been received throughout the consultation period. (Please refer to consultation question 3) Response by EFA Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any concerns about the site can be raised during the formal</li> </ul>



		<p>Planning Application process. We will be seeking planning permission for the proposed schemes of work to enable construction to commence. We are forecasting completion during 2019 at this stage.</p> <p><b>Where is the temporary site for the school going to be located?</b></p> <p><i>Response by EFA Project Director Amjid Raza and Project Manager Andrew Harrison.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed school will open in temporary accommodation from September 2017 and the EFA are in advanced stages of securing a site in the SO14 area. AR confirmed that the site being considered is not the former Academy site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are there a minimum number of pupils required to make the school financially viable?</b></p> <p><i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCS will open with two reception classes (60 pupils). The numbers of applications received is positive however we can open on a smaller number of pupils. We are currently working with the DfE to develop a financial model based on 100%, 80% and 50% intake.</li> </ul> <p><b>How many applications are 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice preferences?</b></p> <p><i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have met with the Local Authority Admissions Manager who is in the process of compiling this information.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have we appointed any staff?</b></p> <p><i>Response by Mary Rouse (Project Director).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have appointed our Principal Steve Wright and are currently advertising for 2 Class Teachers for September 2017. We are unable to confirm / appoint teaching and support staff positions until Funding Agreement has been signed. The project is on track so we are anticipating that Funding Agreement will be in place by the end of March to enable HCS to appoint staff and give unconditional offers/ places parents on April 18<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
5.	Close	Paul Weston formally closed the meeting and encouraged people to complete the questionnaire and ask any further questions of staff present.



## Appendix 2

New Generation Schools Trust is the sponsor of Hope Community School, Southampton. It already sponsors Hope Community School, Sidcup a Free School that opened successfully in September 2013. Hope Community School plans to open in September 2017, welcoming our first group of 60 children into our two Reception classes. The school will serve families in S014 - Southampton City centre.

We have previously completed our Community Consultation, and are now consulting with parents and carers, as well as the local community and other key stakeholders, about the location of the site for Hope Community School. This site consultation process is being undertaken from Friday 6 January and concluding on Saturday 4 February. The permanent home for Hope Community School is 20-25 Chapel Road, Southampton, S014 5GL and will be a purpose built facility providing a state-of-the-art environment for teaching and learning.

Your view is important to us and we welcome your response. Please help us by answering the following questions as appropriate and do feel free to add additional comments in the space provided.

Alternatively, you can email your comments to [consultation@hopecommunityschool.org](mailto:consultation@hopecommunityschool.org)

1. Do you agree that Hope Community School should be located at this site?

Yes       No       Do not know

2. What are the positives you see about the site?

3. Do you have any concerns about the site?

4. Would this location of the School impact your decision to send your child to HCS?

Yes       No       Do not know       Not Applicable

5. Do you think the New Generation Schools Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Hope Community School? This would mean that the Department of Education would fund HCS when it opens, with New Generation Schools Trust as the sponsor. (The school cannot open without this Funding Agreement in place.)

Yes       No       Do not know

6. The proposed Admission Arrangements for HCS have been updated with the DfE and is fully compliant with the School Admissions Code. The Admissions Policy with highlighted changes is available on the School's website ([www.hopecommunityschool.org](http://www.hopecommunityschool.org)). If you wish to comment please email [consultation@hopecommunityschool.org](mailto:consultation@hopecommunityschool.org)

7. Please add any other comments

- If you are not happy for us to quote your comments in our report, please tick here. All comments will be anonymised prior to publication, and the report will be made available on our website.
- Please tick here if you would like to be kept in touch as the school develops.

Your Email:

Postcode:



## Appendix 3

### Q2: What are the positives you see about the site?

- *Central area and easily located*
- *Good location we need a school near homes*
- *Brilliant location for people who live central to get to*
- *It is a central location for the community*
- *Central to city and good public transport access*
- *Central and purpose built*
- *Central, but roads not too busy. Easy to get to*
- *Close to homes and the city centre- so accessible to lots of people and close to New Community church*
- *Good location for the area it aims to serve. Positive use of empty site to improve facilities in this area of the city centre*
- *It is easily accessible and many estates nearby that children can come from so that they have short journeys to school for little legs*
- *Central to the catchment area of the school. Easy to access by public transport. Central to town centre*
- *Good location within SO14. Easily accessible for the local community. Good redevelopment of run-down piece of land*
- *Purpose built*
- *It will serve in a deprived area*
- *Central x6*
- *Central location with sufficient space to mean limited negative impact*
- *Reasonably near to Central Hall*
- *Central in city*
- *easy to do a new build there*
- *good location*
- *The proximity to the city centre and the City centre housing estates*
- *It is reasonably central to the area of the city for which the school is being set up. It is near New Community Church who are key sponsors of the school*
- *Superb provision for the local community*
- *Close to Central Hall*
- *Close to Central Hall where the link church is located. Close to residential area*
- *Centre of town*
- *Appears to be large enough for a school development including some play area*
- *In the heart of so14 but not in St Marys street or in the centre of a estate*
- *New build - built for purpose*
- *Green space, although traffic around - roads are not fast, therefore safe for children*
- *In catchment for many children from all backgrounds needing education*
- *It is central for all who want to use it*
- *Quieter location. Close to New Community Church*
- *Close to church. Good access from town with subways etc*
- *Close to Central Hall and regenerates this area*
- *A great central location within great boundaries*
- *In the centre of SO14*
- *It is near the facilities of the city centre*
- *New build*



- *Location is ideal*
- *Brownfield, and good location for a growing community*
- *Near lots of residential buildings*
- *New Site*
- *Central location in so14 Redevelops the area for the future Sustainable*
- *Near to where the children will live*
- *Location*
- *Great location right in the heart of the community*
- *Good location for families*
- *Close to centre of town, good local transport links X3*
- *Busy community with a lot of kids and central*
- *A busy community with a lot of children A good central location*
- *Near to the city centre*
- *It's easy access*
- *Local to the community*
- *Easy for bus all bus routes*
- *Busy area, with people that need schools*
- *Local*
- *Perfect area and central and easy for parents to get to*
- *Proximity to city centre. Good transport links*
- *Positioned in a part of a community that needs purpose built education facility*
- *Lots of housing nearby so reduced amount of travel for lots of families*
- *Central to most areas*
- *Location*
- *Central location*
- *Close to Central Hall Close to area with most need Engagement so far of people living in that locality*
- *It is in a good location for parents and students to get to*
- *It seems like it is the closest free site to the area it seeks to serve. It looks like it has enough space to provide good facilities*
- *It is central and convenient for children's practical activities*
- *Easy access great location*
- *Good area*
- *Easy for everyone to access*
- *Great location easy access*
- *Bringing the local community together. New jobs for local people*
- *Site is within the SO14 postcode*
- *Location. Public transport link*
- *It's a central location and easily accessible*
- *In the heart of the city and community*
- *Close to me*
- *Right in the middle of the community. Close to the church the school is linked with.*
- *Easy location to get to, close to residential buildings*
- *Will serve Ocean Village, Northam and Chapel Estate well*
- *Space to plan a proper school in the area where the families need it*
- *Location close to Central Hall - helps with keeping close links*
- *New build*
- *It's positioned in a community that needs school places and will benefit and enrich the local community*

- Easily accessible for those living in the SO14 area
- Needed in the local area x6
- New school needed in the local area, new homes being built in the area
- More choice, different style of school pretty central to everyone
- Good site for school there is a need for more school choices
- Local site and another school in this area
- Meet demand in local area. Easy transport links
- Another city centre school is needed. This site is vacant/free and seems sensible to redevelop for this purpose
- In the centre of where need for the school is greatest
- Another school choice to release spaces at other schools in the area
- In city centre, catchment is so small in this area. doubles my options
- More choice, and needed in town
- Central location providing a need in the city for school places
- It will fulfil a need for school places in the local area
- Central to the area where the school is needed
- Where the school need is
- An area that needs a primary school. Good sized site
- We need more schools in Southampton areas
- A school in the local area will be great!
- Need for new school places
- A need for this school in this locality
- New school needed in the local area, new homes being built in the area
- Nothing wrong with the site, I am opposed to new faith schools being set up
- If this is the best site after consultation I trust it is the best site. I am pleased it is so close to The Community Church to make it easy to support the school with chaplaincy work
- No comment x3
- Pupils getting higher education
- It is near St Mary's school so it might benefit from their expertise and also there might be opportunity for consultation about the particular challenges of the community
- No opinion
- Don't know anything about the site x4
- Spreading more awareness

**Q3: Do you have any concerns about the site?**

- It is very near a college so hope the teenagers nearby will be mindful of their behaviour and language in the vicinity of infants
- Close to college, and area parking??
- Traffic from the college students
- TRAIN??
- Where will the Playground be?
- Traffic during the school run?
- Access to the site could be complicated by the railway. There might also be noise from the industrial site
- parking/congestion
- Traffic
- No, but I have concerns about the school

- *Safety of children going to and from the site needs to be thought about carefully to ensure build allows for best outcome safety wise*
- *Size and room for external play. Next to industrial buildings - is noise pollution or other hazards considered?*
- *No 100% happy*
- *Railway line*
- *Could affect levels of traffic in the area*
- *Missed opportunities for sharing a site and the strong connections that would have provided.*
- *The train crossing directly next door. This train can sometimes sit at the crossing for 25 mins causing traffic to back up. No unmetered parking facilities on the road directly outside.*
- *Close to main railway crossing*
- *Care will need to be taken with local traffic, which could be a high proportion of HGVs and commercial vans as it's an industrial estate.*
- *Close to dual carriageway*
- *I don't know how much provision there is for play areas and outside study areas. Also how will the school be affected by proximity to the railway line?*
- *Traffic and parking?*
- *Proximity to railway? Not sure how this might impact the school*
- *Adjacent to a level crossing - potential access by "escaped wanderers" to railway.*
- *How will deliveries be managed on a busy road?*
- *Railway line right by site*
- *Haven't seen plans but hopefully has plenty of outside play space.*
- *Proximity to railway, especially when people are running late. Will they risk running across the tracks?*
- *I am not sure if the level crossing ever is in use. If it is, that may present some challenges.*
- *Will there be enough space/provision for parking. For staff and families if or where necessary*
- *Traffic is busy in this location.*