



GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

S10 Statutory Consultation Report The Waterside Primary Academy

This report summarises the findings of the S10 public consultation about the proposal for the Greenwood Academies Trust (GAT) to open a brand-new primary school in the Trent Basin/Waterside area of Nottingham.

This would necessitate GAT entering into a Funding Agreement with the Department for Education.

The statutory consultation ran for a period of four weeks from Monday 20 November to Friday 15 December 2023. The process involved the circulation of a letter (see Appendix 1) to a wide range of stakeholders including:

- all local schools and academies
- school nurseries
- day nursery providers
- Local child minders
- Local libraries
- Local health centres
- Local community centres and children's centres

A few copies of the letter have been posted up outside the site entrance to where the school will be located.

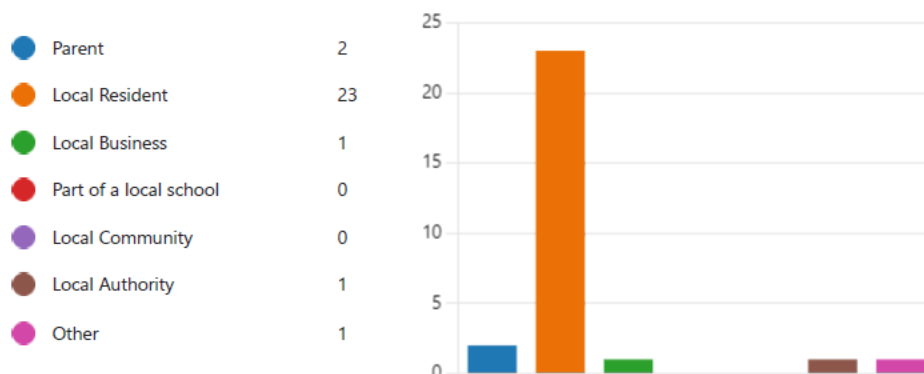
Emails have been sent to the Local Residents Association and The Sneinton Tenants Association along with Blueprint the local developer. The Local Tenants Association shared the consultation via their Facebook which covers over 80% of the households in Trent Basin and Pelham Waterside area.

All information was published on The Waterside Primary Academy website as well as the Greenwood Academies Trust website. It was also promoted on social media with a link to the information on the website via Facebook and Twitter.

The letter included a link to a Microsoft Form for stakeholders to respond as well as a QR code inviting them to respond to the consultation.

Results

We received a total of 28 responses to the consultation. Below gives an overview of responders. As you can see the main responses were received from local residents:



A summary of the responses to the questions can be found below:

	Yes	No
Nottingham City Council, in conjunction with the Department for Education has made an informed decision that there is a requirement for an additional Primary School to ease the pressure on other local schools due to the expansion of further housing developments in the local areas. Do you support this?	23	5
The DfE have purchased the site in Nottingham at NG2 4DT. Do you support the location of the academy?	18	10
The Greenwood Academies Trust is the approved sponsor of the new Free School. Do you support Greenwood Academies Trust being the sponsor of the Free School?	22	6
Admissions: The new Academy will sit at the centre of the local community. It will not select by ability. The policy will conform to the requirements of the Schools Admissions Code. A copy of the Admissions Policy can be found on the website www.thewatersideprimaryacademy.org/consultation . Do you support this?	25	3
SEND: Greenwood Academies Trust is a Trust where we value an inclusive approach to education for all. The SEND policy can be found on the website www.thewatersideprimaryacademy.org/consultation . Do you support this?	24	4
Term Dates: The Waterside Primary Academy will align its term dates with Nottingham City Council's term dates. Do you support this?	26	2
In order to allow The Waterside Primary Academy to open as a Free School in September 2024, the Greenwood Academies Trust must enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education. Do you support this?	23	5

There was an opportunity for respondents to provide any additional feedback. The following comments were received:

No consideration for additional traffic or disruption for residents in Trent Lane.

I have real concerns about the proximity of the new building to heavy industrial use areas, in particular, Prostrip which burns highly toxic chemicals right next to the site of the new school.

Many concerns around the traffic and safety of students and pedestrians in the area, especially down Trent Lane and across Daleside Road. Due to the industrial estate, there is already lot of traffic and large lorries going up and down the road / parking in unmarked bays, as well as a lot of pollution from the factories and the Prostrip premises next to the proposed school site. There is not a lot of parking or available drop off areas on Trent Lane, which could cause many problems for local residents and the businesses.

I am particularly concerned about the impact of the location on traffic. Each working day, there is a build-up of traffic on Trent Lane and Daleside Road. It would appear that this will increase if a school is built in this location. Furthermore, the public transport infrastructure is not sufficient to alleviate the need for parents to privately transport the children to school. The only local bus stop is the 50, however, this only runs once per hour. This is also an overall quiet area with many residents working from home, and a school is likely to increase the noise levels. Has a noise impact survey been undertaken?

As a Trent Basin Resident, I believe putting a primary school inside what is essentially an industrial estate with at times high levels of large vehicles, lorries, trucks forklifts, loaders to be a bit short sighted and verging on being irresponsible. At times it can be difficult to access that part of Trent Lane by foot or car access. The Prostrip premises next door that have been established for many years emit toxic chemicals as part of their process which can't be good for kids. Has this actually been assessed? Trent Lane struggles at time to deal with the levels of traffic that currently exist let alone with the influx of 200 plus pupils and associated traffic. If you add into this the equation of people accessing Trent Lane to get to the bridge that is due to be built next year by foot and by car there's a situation where the whole area is overpopulated. There's too much of a focus to overdevelop the area too quickly.

*Pro strip pollution a problem.
Trent Lane 20 mph and traffic calming needed.
Daleside Road 30 mph, better crossing and roundabout safety measures needed
Drop off for parents required.*

The school should absolutely have proper pedestrian access and limited use of cars in the vicinity. Perhaps look at the Dutch model of school streets where the speed of cars is limited and pedestrians have priority on school streets, with lots of green infrastructure and safe zones for children to walk up to school gates.

In response to the above:

Public consultation took place during the planning period and all of the plans have been through full consultation with the relevant statutory consultees as part of the planning determination process.

In terms of Pro-strip, Reds10 commissioned an odour assessment which concluded that there was no negative impact on the school.

Reds10 also engaged with the Environmental Health Officer to ensure they were satisfied with the proposals.

As part of the development, the Daleside Road crossing is being upgraded for pedestrians, a Traffic Regulation Order has been submitted to reduce the speed limit down Trent Lane from 30mph to 20mph.

Unfortunately, there is no dedicated drop off due to engagement with highways, but the intention is for pupils to walk and travel sustainably to the site from the proposed Blueprint development in the future, and from the future Daleside Road path.

A noise impact assessment was undertaken for the site, which summarised that noise was not a limiting factor in obtaining planning permission.

We note from the responses submitted that all the comments of concern or objection relate to location and issues such as the potential for traffic or congestion. The site for the academy was not selected by Greenwood Academies Trust – the land was chosen by the local authority and DfE.

We also note that no specific comments were made regarding Greenwood Academies Trust's suitability to run the proposed academy and have made the reasonable assumption that those objecting to our signing of a Funding Agreement are doing so on a point of principle about the location rather than because of any inherent concern about Greenwood Academies Trust.

Next Steps

A copy of this report will be published on The Waterside Primary Academy website for responders to review.

Conclusion

Although there are comments raised about the local area, which we have provided responses to above, 82% agreed that the DfE should enter into Funding Agreement with GAT and 79% said they support GAT opening the Free School.

Julie Molde
Operations Manager/Project Manager
15 January 2024