



20<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Proposal to Relocate and Expand Broadway East First School**

### **Stakeholders' Consultation Feedback and Process**

The Governing Body of Broadway East First School met on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, with representation from the City Council and the Gosforth Schools' Trust, to consider the feedback from our stakeholder consultation and to make a decision regarding whether we proceed with the process and if so, what the next stage of that process would be. We are now contacting you to let you know the outcome of that meeting.

The consultation started on 12<sup>th</sup> June. A meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> June and 78 parents/carers attended. Following the meeting, a written summary was provided with further information and explanation. Following feedback from parents/carers who felt that they did not have time to arrange childcare to attend that meeting, we held two further drop-in sessions, one on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June from 10am – 12pm and the second on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July from 5pm - 7pm. Three parents/carers attended the first session and one attended the second session. One further consultation drop-in was held at Newcastle Great Park Community Centre on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June, approximately 20 people attended. Several parents/carers also approached school and had meetings with the Headteacher. Meetings have also taken place between Governors and Local Council Members as well as the MP for Newcastle North.

A total of 134 written responses to the stakeholder consultation were received, though not all included a response to every question. From the whole stakeholder group there were 75 respondents who agreed with the proposal and 48 who did not agree with the proposal.

The Governors recognise that some stakeholders, especially parents/carers, have some concerns about the proposals. Most of the concerns raised were about transport to the proposed site, middle school feeder arrangements and uncertainty about the availability of places on the current school site through the likely expansion of Gosforth Park First School. All of the concerns raised by parents/carers have been considered and discussed.

At the meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July the Governing Body discussed the proposed expansion and relocation of the school to Newcastle Great Park in September 2020. As well as considering the current and future position of the school, all of the feedback from the stakeholder consultation was reviewed and discussed at length. Following this, the Governing Body voted in favour of the proposal to relocate the school to the identified site on Newcastle Great Park and the associated expansion of the school from an intake of 45 to 90 pupils subject to addressing some of the concerns raised by parents/carers; this approval is conditional on Newcastle City Council deciding to expand the school following completion of the statutory process. The Local Authority will now take the proposal of the two related changes to the next stage of the statutory process. The City Council will be the final decision maker in line with the School Organisation Regulations.

The Governing Body has asked the LA to take account of the following concerns raised in the consultation by some parents/carers:

- ensuring sufficient local school places to meet need;
- future admission and feeder school arrangements; and
- travel to the new site.

The Governing Body is committed to working closely with the City Council, Gosforth Schools' Trust and the Gosforth Federated Academies Trust on the above, as well as with parents and carers, to achieve the best outcome for the school, children and parents/carers.

We will continue to keep you informed of any progress on the proposals.

The Governing Body of Broadway East First School