

How to Respond...

The Governors would like to hear your views on this proposal.

1. If you are a parent, you are invited to:

- Send back the enclosed Response Form:
(Send back your written comments to the school marked: TRUSTEE CONSULTATION)
- Email your comments to the school: info@wetherbyhigh.leeds.sch.uk
- Attend the open meeting to be held at Wetherby High School on Monday 16th November 2009 at 7.00pm.

2. If you are a member of staff, you will also have the opportunity to attend an open consultation meeting arranged in the school.

3. If you are a student, you will be consulted through the Student Council.

A summary of your feedback will be made available on the school website at www.wetherbyhigh.co.uk and there will be another chance to comment on any formal proposals, which will be published before the final decision is taken.

If you have any queries or you require this information in another version/format, please telephone the school on **01937 522500** or email info@wetherbyhigh.leeds.sch.uk



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Wetherby High School

The Vision...



Wetherby High School – The Vision

“Wetherby High School’s vision is to be a centre of learning excellence for the whole community and to be seen and judged as exceptional. We are driven by the belief that it is possible to guarantee that every student truly enjoys learning.”

Who are our partners?

Our proposed partners, the University of York and the British Library are committed to learning, development, young people and the community and have a real desire to contribute in significant ways.

University of York

The University of York will bring unique learning experiences to our students as well as opportunities for contact with those in higher education, both staff and students. These opportunities may take place both at the University and at Wetherby High School. They will, for example, focus on learning techniques, technologies and strategies. They may be subject focussed and include master classes and attendance at sample lectures as well as providing further and different challenge, stimulus and aspiration. Students will gain from having a real insight into university life and from experiences which will facilitate the transition to higher education.

The British Library

The British Library will support students’ learning in a variety of ways. For example this may include focussing on individual study, on extending students’ knowledge of resources, facilities and events and providing different environments for study. Students will have experience of the most up to date research methods and equipment used in information technology and retrieval. In addition, students may be supported by individual mentors in their study, personal development, career pathways and career choices.

What will it mean for our students?

“We expect our students to be well qualified and to be skilled in the widest sense; resilient and resourceful, able to get the very best out of life and to make a significant contribution to their community.”

We believe that through Trust Status, our students will gain from a wide range of benefits which will include:

- Experience of an extended range of learning approaches and learning in different contexts
- Development of individual study skills
- Heightened awareness of the application of learning and technology beyond the school environment
- Increased individual support from new sources
- Increased support for aspiration and engagement
- Increased support for transition to higher education and career pathways
- Opportunities for increased personal development through interaction with Trust partners in different spheres
- Opportunities to develop and apply personal skills that are creative, confident and caring, in the community, both local and global
- Additional and enhanced learning resources to inspire and engage students



We believe that becoming a Trust School will realise the vision. It will mean the creation of solid, long term partnerships which will provide a sustainable, concrete framework, not dependent on the presence of individuals and which will be to the benefit of present and future generations of students. Sustainable partnerships set in solid arrangements are one of the hallmarks of Trust.

This is the vision.



What is a Trust School?

A Trust School is a local authority maintained school supported by a Charitable Trust, which appoints some of the governors. Most Church Schools in this country are Foundation Schools which mean that they also have Charitable Status.

A Trust operates within the same frameworks as other maintained schools. It must teach the National Curriculum, follow the School Admissions Code and is inspected by Ofsted. Teaching staff are employed under the terms of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document. The Local Authority funds the school on the same basis as all other Local Authority schools and retains its intervention powers.

The Governing Body of a Trust School (which retains parent, staff, community and local authority governors) remains responsible for all major decisions about the school and its future. The Governing Body remains responsible for all aspects of the conduct of the school (including the school's budget and staff).

Trust Schools are Foundation Schools. They can, therefore, set their own admissions arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code and employ their own staff. Trust Schools have control over their own land and buildings. The Trust would hold the land and assets on trust for the purposes of the education of students.

Trust Schools are significant because their Charitable Trust Status facilitates them establishing long term partnerships with external sources and they are included in the school's governance and direction. Trust appointed governors bring skills and expertise to the Governing Body which further strengthens and supports the Governing Body overall.

Acquiring a Trust is a way for schools to raise standards through strengthening collaboration and drawing on the expertise and energy of their partners to support the strategic leadership. It also enables the school to respond better to local needs and provides opportunities to raise additional funds through its Charitable Status.

How will the Trust work?

The Trust will be legally established through a charitable company. The Charities Commission will regulate its actions. Each partner will then be asked to nominate a member or representative. The members will then meet as a group to work on the objectives set for them by the Governing Body. School representatives would attend Trust meetings to advise. The Trust will appoint an appropriate number of governors onto the Governing Body. The Governing Body will decide if the Trust is to appoint a minority or majority membership at a future meeting.

