

Academy Consultation Meeting with Parents, Carers and the Wider Community

Attending

2 parents

2 governors

1 staff member

1 CEO of trust – Jane Goodwin

1 Headteacher – Jacqui Palmer

Will the phonics change?	No
Will it be a school or trust decision which phonics scheme to use?	There are many schemes used across the trust and each school has made a choice to best suit it's own needs. The impact of the schemes is monitored by the trust and expertise and successes are shared.
How are outcomes monitored?	In addition to the statutory tests, the trust has chosen to use the optional Year 2 SATS. The school is not using them this year and is using the same standardised tests as they use for all other year groups.
Are the buildings leasehold or freehold?	Leasehold
Does the trust have good retention of staff?	The majority of staff are stable. The trusts places a high value on the people within the organisastion and
Would joining the trust have an impact on being in the Grammar School catchment area?	no
Are the behaviour policies for schools in the trust, written by the trust or the schools?	A template behaviour policy is provided by the trust, detailing actions to be taken when significant breeches occur. This is compliant with Dfe guidance. The schools are responsible for developing the policies beyond this, based on their school culture and values.

Would the current celebration events still take place?	Yes – the school would still be responsible for planning these.
Would this effect the pastoral support in school?	No
Would the ‘strictness’ of the school change? Parents had heard of experiences with academies where they felt consequences were not balanced for things like not following uniform regulations.	Yorkshire Causeway is not quite as prescriptive as some other academies. Just like schools, they are all different.
Does the trust offer other academic activities? The school concentrates more on SEN and struggling children rather than accomplished children.	In both the school and the trust there is aspiration for all children. This is academically achieved through tracking and aiming for good progress.
How many layers of leadership are there?	This was explained using the diagram in the presentation, including outlining that the governing board would remain in place and how they fit into the broader system.
Will school still participate in local events such as sports competitions?	Yes
What does the planned development strategy look like?	The trust are currently looking at three other primary schools, including one in Skipton.
Why not stay as a Local Authority school?	The governors feel that there are more opportunities and a sense of more support to enable the school to continue it’s journey of improvement.
The timeline is aiming at conversion in Autumn 2025. What is the main priority or aim as a trust from day 1?	There will be no surprises as people will know what is expected. The transition will be smooth and Sharow School will continue to be Sharow School. Initially, the aim will be to build and foster relationships.
What will be the impact on teachers’ pay and pensions?	They will have the same pension schemes and be on the same terms and conditions as they are now.