

## Appendix 2

### Title: Responses to the initial consultation on the options for the future of Stamford Hill Primary School and summary of representations

1.1 **52** individual responses were received to the consultation (**23** by post, **18** by online survey and **11** by email). These responses included **23** parental/carer responses. There were **6** responses from staff (teaching staff), **2** from Governors, **6** from Haringey employees, **1** from a Headteacher, and **14** responded 'Other'. Those who responded 'Other' included an Assistant Headteacher, local residents, a Deputy Headteacher, a nursery nurse, a Unison rep, a School Business Manager and Year 6 pupils.

1.2 **Responses to Q1** - Of the 52 individual responses, **19** (37%) **agreed** with the proposal to amalgamate the schools whilst an equal proportion **strongly disagreed** with the proposal. Taken together some **27** respondents (52%) **disagreed or strongly disagreed** whilst **21** (41%) **agreed or strongly agreed**. Some **4** respondents (8%) **neither agreed nor disagreed**.

1.3 **Responses to Q2** - 26 of the 52 responded when asked to expand on their reasons for agreeing or disagreeing with the proposal to amalgamate. These have been grouped into these shown in the diagram below.

1.4 The most popular response was **Question 3 - Please expand on the reasons for your answer to Q1** (shown in grey above)

Source: Haringey Education Service 2019

1.5 The three most popular responses were Stamford Hill should remain open (13), amalgamation should

Haringey want the school for other reasons 1

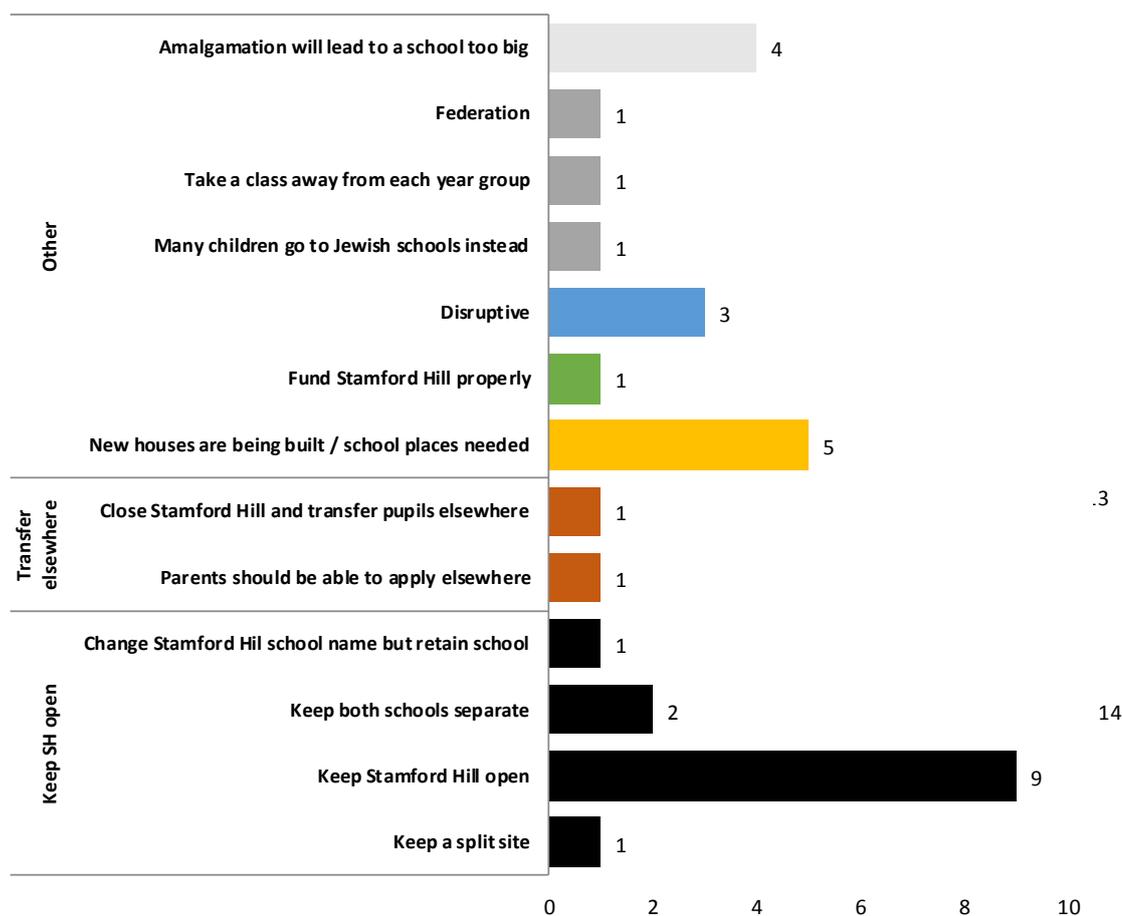
Not enough info. from Haringey 4

Will there be enough support for SEN? 2

1.6 **Responses to Question 3** - 31 of the 52 responded when asked what their preferred option was if the

#### Question 3 - If you don't agree with Stamford Hill and Tiveton amalgamating which of the following is your preferred approach?

Source: Haringey Education Service 2019



- expand on views already expressed.
- 1.7 A response was received by email from the Chair of Governors at Tiverton Primary School on behalf of the Leadership and Governing Body, which set out the governing body's view of the support and the steps that would be required to 'make this work for the children'. Points raised in this response are summarised in the table under Item 1.13 below.
- 1.8 Neither of the Governing Bodies of the relevant schools have opposed the proposed amalgamation.
- 1.9 As part of the pre-consultation process, public meetings were held at Stamford Hill Primary on 3 April 2019 and Tiverton Primary School on 25 April 2019. Approximately 50 people attended the first public meeting at Stamford Hill Primary and approximately 30 attended Tiverton Primary. The number of parent/carers estimated to be at the meeting was 40 and 20, respectively.
- 1.10 The views expressed at the public meeting broadly reflected those of the written responses. A recurrent question posed by parent/carers related to whether places would be guaranteed for displaced pupils. It was made clear that places at the new primary school would be guaranteed to all families that wanted one if amalgamation were to go ahead.
- 1.11 The following table lists a summary of comments that were received during the consultation together with responses from LA Officers. All individual and collective responses are available for Cabinet members to inspect at Appendix 3
- 1.12 Summary of the points raised by respondents

**Summary of points raised by Tiverton Primary School - Headteacher, Chair of Governors, Senior Leaders and others**

- Responses from Tiverton Primary School were in favour of the proposal; however, assurances were sought that additional financial support and resources would be provided to ensure the best possible outcomes for the new school community.
- The Headteacher of Tiverton Primary School stated that she was "confident that appropriate resourcing by the Local Authority, together with the dedication and resilience of the Tiverton team will serve to support a highly successful amalgamation."
- The Chair of Governors echoed the Headteacher's remarks and emphasised that the school's deficit budget had significantly reduced as a result of efficiency savings. She sought assurances on behalf of the Governing Body and Leadership team that the school budget would not be detrimentally impacted. Concerns largely centred on financial pressures and the impact on standards if amalgamation were to go ahead.

The Governing Body of Tiverton request funding under the following categories, which they believe to be the areas of focus crucial to a successful amalgamation:

**Premises**

- Funding for bulge classes in the event that the school is required to admit additional children above a PAN of 30 or 60 as appropriate.
- Split site funding in the event that the school has to operate on two sites temporarily.

- Resources made available for patrol crossing before and after school.

**Performance and standards**

- Funding to support children achieving less than the expected level of attainment.
- Funding to support children with SEND who may require accelerated learning and support for fast track assessments.

**Officer's response to the points raised by Tiverton Primary School - Headteacher, Chair of Governors, Senior Leaders and class teachers**

The concerns raised above have been acknowledged. The deficit budget at Stamford Hill Primary School has significantly reduced and it would not transfer to the new primary school established through an amalgamation. Any remaining deficit at Stamford Hill would be borne by the Local Authority ahead of any amalgamation.

**Premises**

As set out in paragraphs 5.18 and 5.19 above, Tiverton Primary School currently has the capacity to absorb the vast majority of pupils from Stamford Hill Primary. A programme of capital works may be required to accommodate additional pupils; however, it is also expected that a small minority of families from Stamford Hill will transfer to alternative schools leaving more capacity within the current structure.

Any enlargement and/or significant alternation of Tiverton Primary School is, therefore, not likely to be required. The Council is committed to working closely with Tiverton Primary to maximise its available space so it can continue to ensure the successful learning of all pupils. Any bulge classes required to accommodate additional pupils above PAN will invite Growth Fund payment.

A temporary split-site scenario may be in operation from September 2020, although further modelling is in progress to see if and how this might be achieved and to allow for onsite provision at Stamford Hill Primary to continue where needed. Haringey's local authority formula currently includes a factor to provide additional funding to schools that operate on more than one site.

**Performance and Standards**

It is recognised that one of the most important concerns is the impact of the amalgamation on standards. Amalgamation should lead to a single primary school with an uninterrupted and consistently high standard of teaching and support for pupils. Lump sum funding will be made available as appropriate to ensure that the new school established through an amalgamation will provide a rich and engaging curriculum and opportunities for pupils to achieve high standards in their learning.

The National Funding Formula **currently** includes provision for the payment of a lump sum to schools that are amalgamating. The relevant paragraphs in the **2019/20** school's revenue funding operational guide which set out how the lump sum is to be calculated where schools amalgamate are detailed below.

Paragraphs 41 of the attached Schools Revenue Funding 2019-20 Operational Guide (updated December 2018) provides that where schools have amalgamated after 1 April 2019. e.g. 1 September 2019, in the first year of the amalgamation the funding the new school would receive for the remaining 7 months of the year from

1.9.2019 up to 31.3.2020 via the lump sum element of the funding formula is the sum of the separate schools' funding for the remainder of that year, which is the same as the 2 schools would have received separately for that period up to 31 March 2020.

After the first 7-month period, the provision for the next financial year (2020/21) would reduce to 85% of the predecessor schools' lump sums. Paragraph 41 provides some discretion as to the level of lump sum that can be paid to an amalgamating school in the third financial year of its operation. However, this would require an application by the Council to the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) giving an explanation for the level of discretionary protection being requested by the Local Authority. ESFA does not expect the level of discretionary protection to exceed 70% of the combined lump sums.

It should be noted that the funding factors and values in the National Funding Formula are subject to review by the ESFA and could differ in 2020/21 (when the amalgamated primary school would be expected to open if amalgamation were to go ahead) and 2021/22. The level of local discretion available to the Council and Schools Forum to set local funding factor values may also change over the period. This could affect the funding allocated to the amalgamated school under the Funding Formula applicable in the relevant financial year.

#### **Summary of main points raised by individuals not in favour of the proposal**

##### **Housing and development**

- "There is going to be a massive development on the St Ann's Hospital site which will increase the number of families looking for schools in the area."
- "There is always a great need for school places and with new developments being built all over the area. New families moving into the area"
- "Number of students falling? but there are more than 700 homes being built around the school, have you considered of how many children are going to come and live with their families in these new homes? Schools will be needed."

##### **Disruption and separation of children**

- "Tiverton Primary school already have two classes per year. My daughter wouldn't thrive in such big numbers."
- "I want my child to continue at this school"
- "Because you do not want there to be enough space for all the children of Stamford Hill and if there was, it would be an all-encompassing school and I would not say that there is a good education. Send children on the waiting list of the most important schools. Give the teachers stability. Promote the school. When the Stamford Hill school goes ahead with their children and they are very happy there and the change and I think it will unsettle the."
- "It is because they will separate the friendship of the kids. It will complicate the children with their friends."

##### **Demand for school places**

- "I'm assuming this is a big Jewish area and families are choosing Jewish schools over regular state primary schools?"
- "First, I do not agree with the school the Tiverton is not adapted for what they intend to do, and it is too small for this project."
- "Stamford Hill has provided for many generations. If numbers are falling, then

surely if teaching improves, greater numbers will apply. It seems a great waste of a public school when other areas in London have a very small amount of spaces. This is a much better site also. Why not keep this site open and not close?"

**Funding and performance and standard of teaching**

- "I prefer Stamford Hill to remain open to get the funds that they need."
- "Stamford Hill will fill the gap that is short in the school. The teachers and headteacher will fill the shortage in the school. They will be more parents that would like to register their child at Stamford hill Primary School."

**Officer's response to points raised by individuals not in favour of the proposal****Housing and development**

The development at the St Ann's hospital site has yet to commence and is unlikely to add any additional demand for local school places until 2021/22 at the very earliest. All planned developments, including child yield arising from the development(s) are accounted for in our school roll projections, and we do not project that numbers of children in the local area are likely to increase significantly in the near future, to lead to increased pupil numbers at schools. An amalgamation will provide a long-term sustainable solution to falling local demand.

**Disruption and separation of children**

The Council is committed to providing a stable transition and ensuring cohorts of children are, as far as reasonably possible, kept together. Places at the new primary school established through the potential amalgamation will be guaranteed to all families that want one.

If amalgamation were to go ahead, an admissions process enabling families to apply to alternative schools would be implemented prior to the establishment of the new school in September (from May 2020). The Council recognises that keeping siblings together for families that apply for other schools will also be critical as siblings who are close in age may benefit from having each other at the same school to offer social and emotional support at a new school.

Parent/carers will have a right to express a preference for any school and, in the case of community and voluntary controlled schools, the relevant Local Authority is the admissions authority and will meet that preference provided there are vacant places or the school is happy to admit above the published admission number. In the case of Voluntary Aided (VA) schools and Academies, the Governing Body decide the conditions for admission to their particular school.

The majority of local schools (Community, VA and Academies) in PA3 currently have vacancies and will still be expected to do so when an admission process opens in May 2020 due to the projected lack of demand. This means that an alternative local school can be offered to any family that wants one. Moreover, all Haringey schools in the area are judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding' and will provide pupils with high educational standards.

**Demand for school places**

In response to the points raised, a lack of demand in the local area is not due to

families transferring to independent Jewish schools and pupil number are also not expected to increase unexpectedly from improvement in standards. The lack in demand for school places is due to a flattening birth rate and a higher than projected increase in outward migration. This has contributed to a high surplus of places with current projections showing a consistent surplus of approximately one form of entry in PA3 up until 2026/27.