



GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

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Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Proposal to separate Nottingham Academy into two academies

I am writing to inform you that we are starting a consultation of a proposal that we believe will have an extremely positive impact on the education of pupils at Nottingham Academy, which is to separate it into two academies. We are very keen to hear your views on this, including on the amended admissions arrangements which are available on our website www.nottinghamacademy.org or at any Nottingham Academy reception. We are therefore starting a consultation on this proposal, which will run from 12 November 2018 – 21 December 2018.

The proposal

Nottingham Academy is currently established as a single all-through (3-19) academy which has one Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education but which operates from two different campuses – Greenwood Campus (including Sneinton Boulevard) and Ransom Road Campus. At present, all-through (3-19) education is offered at the Greenwood Campus (including Sneinton Boulevard) and 11-16 is delivered from the Ransom Road Campus.

The proposal being consulted on is that from **1 September 2019**:

- I. The Greenwood Campus (including Sneinton Boulevard) of the Nottingham Academy, including the Primary Academy, remains with exactly the same sites and the same year groups (age 3 to 19). The capacity will stay the same, being 150 in each year group for primary, 300 in each year group for secondary and 260 for post-16. This academy will be known as the Colwick Park Academy.
- II. The Ransom Road Campus will be opened as a new academy called the Mapperley Park Academy on the same site for the same year groups (age 11 to 16) and with the same capacity of 180 in each year group.
- III. Both academies will continue to be operated by Greenwood Academies Trust.

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Background to the proposal

Nottingham Academy was established on 1 September 2009, being the amalgamation of three predecessor schools: Greenwood Dale School (the academy sponsor), Jesse Boot Primary School and Elliott Durham Secondary School. Nottingham Academy is currently the largest school in the country with a capacity of 3,900 statutory school age pupils.

This amalgamation has proven to be successful but the Trust is aware that the two academy campuses, whilst only three miles apart, serve distinct communities of Nottingham and the Trust believes the proposal would further raise standards and allow for an even higher quality of education to be delivered, truly meeting the needs of, and being in the best interests of, the children and young people we serve.

The Mapperley Park Academy, currently the Ransom Road Campus, will be an 11-16 academy, led by a dedicated Principal and leadership team. It will enable the curriculum to be more bespoke to the specific needs of the local community whilst building on the existing strong practice across the existing campus. The focus will be to work closely with the wider local community to develop a new academy, which is well placed to play an active and wide role at the heart of the local community.

The Colwick Park Academy, currently Greenwood Campus (including Sneinton Boulevard), will be a 3-19 academy, led by a dedicated Principal and leadership team. Once again the aim of the creation of a new academy is to be more responsive to the specific needs of the local community. This will allow a more tailored approach to the curriculum delivery and to build on the strong practice which currently exists. The Colwick Park Academy will play an active and wide role at the heart of the local community.

It is our proposal to ensure that both the Mapperley Park and Colwick Park academies are at the heart of the community in which they are located and are more able to be responsive to the needs of the pupils and communities they serve than at present.

In addition, the creation of two separate academies will make the admissions process clearer, with parents being able to preference the particular academy they wish their child to attend.

You, as parents/carers and stakeholders, will also be able to have a much more detailed understanding of the strengths of each academy. For instance, Ofsted, the schools' inspector, will also be able to make more informed judgements, as it will consider the quality of education delivered at each of the two new academies, rather than having to make a generic judgement about the provision across multiple sites.

Similarly, examination results will be published for the individual academies, not across the multiple sites as is currently the case.

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Summary of the positive impact of the proposal

If the proposal is agreed it would mean:

- Both academies will have their own Principal (Head Teacher), allowing for strong and specific leadership of each academy.
- A bespoke, personalised curriculum that best meets the needs of pupils will be developed and delivered for each of the academies.
- There will be greater local accountability, with parents and carers able to see examination results from each of the two academies, and Ofsted judgements reflecting their different strengths.
- Staff working at each of the existing campuses will still work on the same site, so there will be no disruption to them, and the teachers, teaching assistants and wider staff whom pupils know and trust will continue to work with them.
- Senior leaders at the two new academies will be able to deploy resources appropriately to meet their academy's specific needs.
- There will be no disruption to the education of pupils:
 - All existing Nottingham Academy pupils based at the Greenwood Campus (including Sneinton Boulevard) will remain at the Greenwood Campus, which will be known as the Colwick Park Academy from 1 September 2019.
 - All existing Nottingham Academy pupils based at the Ransom Road Campus, can remain at the Ransom Road Campus, but this site will be a new separate academy called the Mapperley Park Academy from 1 September 2019.
- For September 2019 admissions:
 - Primary and sixth form will be unaffected. If a place would have been offered under the existing arrangements at the Nottingham Academy it will be offered at the Colwick Park Academy.
 - We expect year 7 places will be processed as they would have been if no changes had been made, where the allocation of campus (Greenwood Road or Ransom Road) would be made based on the proximity of the campus to the home address.
 - Those pupils that would have been allocated to the Nottingham Academy Ransom Road Campus will be asked to confirm that they are happy to take a place at the Mapperley Park Academy on the same site, rather than at the Colwick Park Academy).

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How to give your views

Your views are very important to us and you are therefore invited to a parents/carers and community consultation event on Thursday 6 December. We will be holding two events, one at Greenwood Campus site 1 and one at the Ransom Road site, both starting at 5.30pm. At these events you will be able to hear more about the proposal and you will be able to let us know your views and raise any potential concerns you may have.

Further information about the proposal is available on the Nottingham Academy website. If you are unable to attend the consultation event and wish to submit your views please email consultation@greenwoodacademies.org by 5pm on 21 December 2018.

Decision-making following consultation

Following the consultation period, Greenwood Academies Trust's Board of Trustees will review the representations made by parents, carers and other relevant stakeholders. If the Trust Board decides to proceed with the proposal following this review, the decision will then be subject to final approval by the Secretary of State for Education.

We will let parents/carers and other stakeholders know as soon as possible after the consultation has closed whether the proposal will be taken forward.

Yours faithfully,



Wayne Norrie
Chief Executive

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