



**REPORT ON SECTION 10
PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Tuesday 1st November to Monday 12th December 2022



Executive Summary

Oakley School is a 4-16 all through school in the pre-opening phase with a planned opening date of September 2023. The school will be part of the Stowe Valley Multi Academy Trust (MAT) which currently runs nine other schools across Warwickshire and Northamptonshire which are all within a 30 minutes drive of our outstanding flagship school, Southam College. This report outlines the engagement with our stakeholders alongside the formal Section 10 consultation.

Stowe Valley MAT and Oakley School staff will ensure that every child is proud of coming to Oakley School and every parent is proud to send their child to the school. The school will sit at the very heart of the community providing pupils with an inspiring environment where they are encouraged to achieve their goals.

The Trust vision is encapsulated in our motto **'Be the best you can be.'**

Stowe Valley MAT – the proposer

Stowe Valley MAT is an education charity and not-for-profit Multi Academy Trust. We are a family of schools with a growing reputation in Warwickshire for providing consistently high quality standards of education and improving schools as they join our Trust.

We have a track record of success with all our schools now being oversubscribed and consistently achieving excellent results and providing numerous residential visits.

We are the second largest educator in Warwickshire after the Local Authority and now employ over 600 staff.

Our aims are for Oakley School to:

- Create an inclusive, seamless educational experience for our pupils across all key stages
- Develop responsible, capable and confident young people who are active citizens in the 21st Century
- Use our success to drive us to reach even higher standards in all our schools, through a rich and motivating curriculum
- Be recognised by our staff, parents and local community as providers of a safe, creative and ethical environment reinforced by a vibrant community dimension

Our Trust will support the development of Oakley School in every way. It will nurture the school community to create its own unique identity reflecting the pupils, staff, parents/carers and local community. Oakley School will also have the security of knowing that it will always be supported by the wider MAT family, to be on an ongoing journey of development so that every pupil is fully supported to fulfil their potential.

Initial Phase

Stowe Valley MAT was informed of its successful bid to run Oakley School in July 2022.

A large number of letters of support, 38 in total, were collected for the submission of the bid. These were from a variety of sources including other local trusts and schools, councillors, businesses and education professionals.

After the successful announcement the trust undertook various stakeholder engagement prior to and during the formal consultation process. Methods used to reach stakeholders included:

- Engagement of a marketing company and an extensive social media campaign launched including the creation of a mailing list of interested parties
- Meetings with the local authority including the Director of Children Services
- Meetings with the Department for Education
- Visits to local feeder schools
- Oakley School website launched and updated regularly
- Open events for prospective pupils and parents for September 2023 including a meet the Headteacher event during October ½ term following her successful appointment
- A dedicated email address was published for stakeholders to directly contact Stowe Valley MAT
- Regular newsletters sent to subscribers of our mailing list
- Attendance at local parish council meetings
- Meetings with local headteachers

Statutory consultation

The statutory Section 10 consultation commenced on 1st November and ran for six weeks to Monday 12th December 2022.

Information provided to stakeholders took the following forms:

- Public consultation brochure. This was made available in electronic format and printed form and was specifically sent to a wide range of stakeholders, providing information on how feedback could be given.
- Oakley School website carried information about the proposed new school, the consultation process and a downloadable consultation brochure along with an online survey which was also downloadable and instructions were given on how to return paper copies.
- Stowe Valley MAT website also provided a direct link to the Oakley School website to access the information as detailed above.

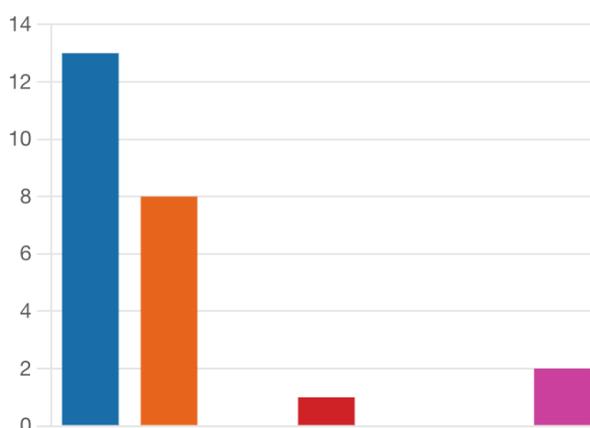
Statutory consultation results and responses

There were 24 online responses to the questionnaire and 0 returns by hand.

Which of the following best describes you?

[More Details](#)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| ● Parent/Carer | 13 |
| ● Member of staff or governor at ... | 8 |
| ● Elected member | 0 |
| ● Local resident | 1 |
| ● Local business owner | 0 |
| ● Local authority employee | 0 |
| ● Other | 2 |



Where do you live, approximately, in relation to the new school?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

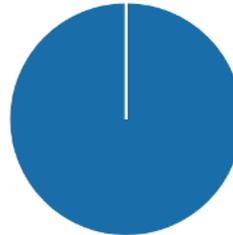
| | |
|---|----|
| ● Within 1 mile | 11 |
| ● Within 3 miles | 4 |
| ● Within 5 miles | 3 |
| ● Greater than 5 miles | 6 |



Do you agree that opening Oakley School will provide extra choice for parents and meet a need to provide additional school places in the area?

[More Details](#)

| | |
|---|----|
| ● Yes | 24 |
| ● No | 0 |
| ● Unsure | 0 |



Do you agree that the vision and values for Oakley School meet the needs of the community?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

| | |
|---|----|
| ● Yes | 23 |
| ● No | 0 |
| ● Unsure | 1 |

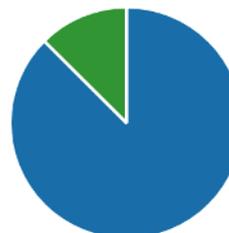


Should Stowe Valley MAT enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education in order to open this school? In order for the school to open it will need to sign a contract (called a Funding Agreement) with the Department for Education.

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

| | |
|---|----|
| ● Yes | 21 |
| ● No | 0 |
| ● Unsure | 3 |



Comments and feedback

There were 6 comments:

Comment 1

I wish that we (as parents) had more autonomous choice over our school preferences, and reasons for such.

With regards to funding; I would hope that MAT are able to formulate their own curriculum and policies based on the community and not fall under the bureaucracy of the DoE.

Comment 2

I would of thought all of this has been taken care of as we have already applied for a place for September 2023

Comment 3

Oakley school will provide a much needed community hub and central point in the area and as a local resident and parent to future pupils who will attend the school I would like to see the school play an active role in the local community as well as providing a first rate education to our children. I look forward to seeing how Oakley school develops and enriches our local community in the coming years.

Comment 4

Ref question 5, It is not clear if entering the funding agreement is mandatory or not in order to open the school. If it was mandatory then the question would be irrelevant as the school is agreed to be built and opened anyway. Therefore I assume there are alternatives to entering a funding agreement with Secretary of State. I tried to research online on pros vs cons on entering such an agreement but could not find any (it appears entering such agreement is a default). Therefore, I suggest a pro vs cons list (or link to an online article/documentation) should be provided when asking these questions to ensure that parents express an informed opinion.

Comment 5

So excited!

Comment 6

Stowe Valley is an outstanding trust, and I am delighted as a local school leader and resident that this new school will be opened by such a committed and skilled team. They really do live and breathe the ethos of a "family of schools"

There was no feedback received through the Oakley school email address in relation to the Section 10 consultation.

Conclusion and next steps

There has been extensive consultation with a variety of stakeholders since being awarded the exciting opportunity of running Oakley School. This has included consultation on the School name and uniform.

The feedback we have received has been overwhelming supportive and positive.

Applications for September 2023 into Year 7 are over PAN and first choices are at least over a third of this.

The Trust will now conclude the process of agreeing a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education.

We would like to thank all stakeholders who have taken the time to read and hear about our exciting plans and provide feedback. We will, of course, continue to work with stakeholders as we progress further towards opening and continue lines of communication with them at various stages along the way.