



Report to Broomhaugh Church of England First School and
Corbridge Church of England First School governing boards on
the outcome of the consultation to form a federation
between the two schools

Elisabeth Charman & Gayle Baty
19th May 2021

The consultation

Following the successful collaboration and shared leadership of Broomhaugh Church of England First School and Corbridge Church of England First School since April 2019, Governors from both schools consulted on a proposal to form a formal federation, to be known as 'The Broomhaugh and Corbridge Church of England First School Federation'.

The consultation commenced at 12:00 noon on Monday 22nd March 2021 and finished at 12:00 noon on Monday 10th May 2021. This gave a seven week consultation window for stakeholder comments.

Stakeholder consultation

The consultation documents were posted on each School's website for the duration of the consultation period and the documents were sent directly to the following stakeholders:

- all parents and carers at both schools
- all teaching staff at both schools
- all support staff at both schools
- all governors at both schools
- Diocese of Durham and Newcastle - Joint Education Team
- the local authority (Northumberland County Council)
- The Parochial Parish Councils of St James' (Riding Mill) and St Andrew's (Corbridge)
- All schools in the Hexham Partnership
- Riding Mill Outdoor Preschool
- Corbridge Preschool
- Corbridge Kids Klub
- Teaching Unions
- rsc.north@education.gov.uk
- schoolfederation.notifications@education.gov.uk

Stakeholder meetings and correspondence

A staff meeting via Google Meet was organised for Wed 24 Mar 2021 8pm - 9pm. This was attended by Gayle Baty and Elisabeth Charman (current Chairs of Governors), Jennifer Ainsley (EHT), Sarah Gray (EDHT), 1 additional staff member from Broomhaugh and 3 additional staff members from Corbridge.

On Thursday 22nd April we organised a virtual session via Zoom for parents to book onto if they wished where we planned to answer any further questions. The session for Corbridge parents was planned for 4 - 5pm and the session for Broomhaugh parents 5 - 6 pm. The virtual meeting was to be hosted by Broomhaugh chair of governors Elisabeth Charman, Corbridge chair of governors Gayle Baty, Director of Education at the Diocese of Durham and Newcastle Paul Rickeard, and Assistant Director of Education at the Diocese of Durham and Newcastle Liane Atkin. Executive Headteacher Jennifer Ainsley and other governors also planned to attend.

No parents from Broomhaugh asked to attend. Two parents from Corbridge asked to attend initially but nearer the time had no questions to ask so opted not to attend. The meeting was not held.

Parents, staff and other stakeholders were reminded that the Chairs' and Miss Ainsley were available for face to face conversations, phone calls or email queries at any point during the consultation at a time most convenient to them.

At Broomhaugh, Elisabeth Charman responded to two stakeholder queries prior to their formal response coming in. Emailed responses were shared with governors of both schools. At Corbridge, Gayle Baty received no substantial questions before formal responses.

Responses to the consultation

By the end of the consultation period, we had received 17 responses from Broomhaugh stakeholders and 25 from Corbridge stakeholders. Four responses were submitted by the same individuals to both schools (the EHT and EDHT, the Diocese, plus one individual who felt equal association with both schools). Several people ticked more than one category when describing themselves (e.g. parent and governor or parent and member of the community). An individual is only counted once in this analysis so there were a total of 38 'unique' responses. Appendix one shows the complete consultation results anonymised. All responses were stored on a shared drive accessible by all governors. A summary of responses is shown in the tables below.

1. Response rate by category of stakeholders

Broomhaugh

Category	Number of responses
Parent/carer	7 (inc. 2 governors)
Governor	3 (inc. 2 parents)
Member of teaching staff	1
Member of support staff	2
Member of the community	3 (inc. 3 parents and 2 governors)
Member of the PCC	1
Other	1
<i>Total unique responses</i>	<i>13</i>

Corbridge

Category	Number of responses
Parent/carer	5 (inc. 2 governor)
Governor	3 (inc. 2 parents)
Member of teaching staff	4 (inc. 1 support staff)
Member of support staff	12 (inc. 1 teaching staff)
Member of the community	0
Member of the PCC	0
Other	0
<i>Total unique responses</i>	<i>21</i>

Representing both schools

Category	Number of responses
Parent/carer	0
Governor	0
Member of teaching staff	2
Member of support staff	0
Member of the community	0
Member of the PCC	0
Other	2
<i>Total unique responses</i>	<i>4</i>

2. Responses

Counting only the 38 unique responses, the responses were as follows per school.

Broomhaugh

Response	Number of responses	Percentage of response
Yes, I agree with the proposal	11	85%
No, I disagree with the proposal	0	
I have no opinion either way	0	
I am undecided	2	15%
<i>Total unique responses</i>	13	

Corbridge

Response	Number of responses	Percentage of response
Yes, I agree with the proposal	13	62%
No, I disagree with the proposal	0	
I have no opinion either way	7	33%
I am undecided	1	5%
<i>Total unique responses</i>	21	

Representing both schools

Response	Number of responses	Percentage of response
Yes, I agree with the proposal	4	100%
No, I disagree with the proposal	0	
I have no opinion either way	0	
I am undecided	0	
<i>Total unique responses</i>	4	

3. Response per category of stakeholder

Percentages are given where the total number of responses in that category exceeds n=5.

Broomhaugh

Category	Number of responses	Yes, I agree with the proposal	No, I disagree with the proposal	I have no opinion either way	I am undecided
Parent/carer	7 (inc. 2 governors)	5 (71% of parent responses)			2 (29% of parent responses)
Governor	3 (inc. 2 parents)	3			
Member of teaching staff	1	1			
Member of support staff	2	2			
Member of the community	3 (inc. 3 parents)	3			
Member of the PCC	1	1			

Other	1	1			
<i>Total unique responses</i>	13	11 (85% of all responses)			2 (15% of all responses)

Corbridge

Category	Number of responses	Yes, I agree with the proposal	No, I disagree with the proposal	I have no opinion either way	I am undecided
Parent/carer	5 (inc. 2 governors)	5 (100% of parent responses)			
Governor	3 (inc. 2 parents)	3			
Member of teaching staff	4 (inc. 1 support staff)	2		1	1
Member of support staff	12 (inc. 1 teaching staff)	5 (42% of support staff responses)		6 (50% of support staff responses)	1 (8% of support staff responses)
Member of the community	0				
Member of the PCC	0				
Other	0				
<i>Total unique responses</i>	21	12 (57% of total responses)		7 (33% of total responses)	2 (10% of total responses)

Representing both schools

Category	Number of responses	Yes, I agree with the proposal	No, I disagree with the proposal	I have no opinion either way	I am undecided
Parent/carer					
Governor					
Member of teaching staff	2	2			
Member of support staff					
Member of the community					
Member of the PCC					
Other	2	2			
<i>Total unique responses</i>	4	4			

Combined results

Category	Number of responses	Yes, I agree with the proposal	No, I disagree with the proposal	I have no opinion either way	I am undecided

Parent/carer	12	10 (83% of responses in this category)			2
Governor	6	6 (100% of responses in this category)			
Member of teaching staff	7	5 (71% of responses in this category)		1 (14% of responses in this category)	1 (14% of responses in this category)
Member of support staff	14	7 (50% of responses in this category)		6 (43% of responses in this category)	1 (7% of responses in this category)
Member of the community	3	3			
Member of the PCC	1	1			
Other	3	3			
<i>Total unique responses</i>	38	27 (71% of all responses)		7 (18% of all responses)	4 (11% of all responses)

Summary

The response to the consultation was relatively low across all categories of stakeholders. Parents and support staff represented the majority of the responses received. There were no responses indicating that stakeholders did not agree with the proposal. 71% of all responses were positive, 18% held no view either way and 11% remained undecided.

At Broomhaugh, two stakeholders provided detailed comments/questions relating to issues such as school ethos, finance and staffing which we provided further responses to.

Recommendation to Broomhaugh and Corbridge Governing Boards from the Chairs

Given the results of the consultation and balance of positive responses received, we recommend that the proposal to federate the two schools proceeds.

APPENDIX
Anonymised results

Broomhaugh

Number	Date received	Name	Status							View			
			Parent/carerer	Member of teaching staff	Member of support staff	Governor	Member of the community	Member of the PCC	Other	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	I have no opinion either way	I'm undecided
1			x			x	x			x			
2						x				x			
3			x			x	x			x			
4					x					x			
5				x						x			
6				x						x			
7									x	x			
8			x							x			
9									x	x			
10									x	x			
11				x						x			
12					x					x			
13			x				x			x			
14			x							x			
15								x		x			
16			x										x
17			x										x

Corbridge

Number	Date received	Name	Status							View			
			Parent/carerer	Member of teaching staff	Member of support staff	Governor	Member of the community	Member of the PCC	Other	Yes, I agree	No, I disagree	I have no opinion either way	I'm undecided
1			x			x				x			
2			x							x			
3				x						x			
4				x						x			
5					x					x			
6					x							x	

7			x								x	
8		x							x			
9				x							x	
10				x							x	
11				x					x			
12				x					x			
13				x							x	
14				x							x	
15			x	x								x
16			x						x			
17								x	x			
18				x					x			
19				x					x			
20				x							x	
21		x							x			
22								x	x			
23			x						x			
24					x				x			
25		x			x				x			