



Summary of the Consultation for the relocation of Park Community Academy Sixth Form Provision

"We grow together, we learn together, we will achieve our best together."



Our Proposal

On Monday 6th September to Monday 4th October 2021 we consulted on the proposed transfer of the PCA post 16 pathways offer to the Oracle site, delivered and supported by our current PCA staff team.

Current location	Proposed location
Westbury Sixth Form Centre Park Community Academy Blackpool FY3 9HF	The Oracle 49 St Anne's Road Blackpool FY4 2AP

This will also create additional space on our existing site to continue to meet the needs of pre 16 learners with SEND in Blackpool.

At the Sea View Trust we are passionate about providing a high-quality education for all our learners. We strongly feel this opportunity will enable our post 16 learners to have an appropriate environment and a holistic curriculum offer which fully meets their needs, whilst ensuring we prepare them for adulthood and the world of work.

The consultation

The public consultation was a comprehensive, open and transparent process and consisted of:

- An information booklet that was distributed to key stakeholders (parents/carers, pupils, staff, governors, trustees, schools and colleges in Blackpool, Blackpool LA, community users)
- Access to the consultation document and questionnaire through the website which was also promoted on social media
- A newspaper article in the Blackpool Gazette detailing the proposed move
- An open public consultation meeting on Monday 20th September 2021 in the school hall
- An opportunity for all interested to submit their views and ask any further questions

Summary of Responses

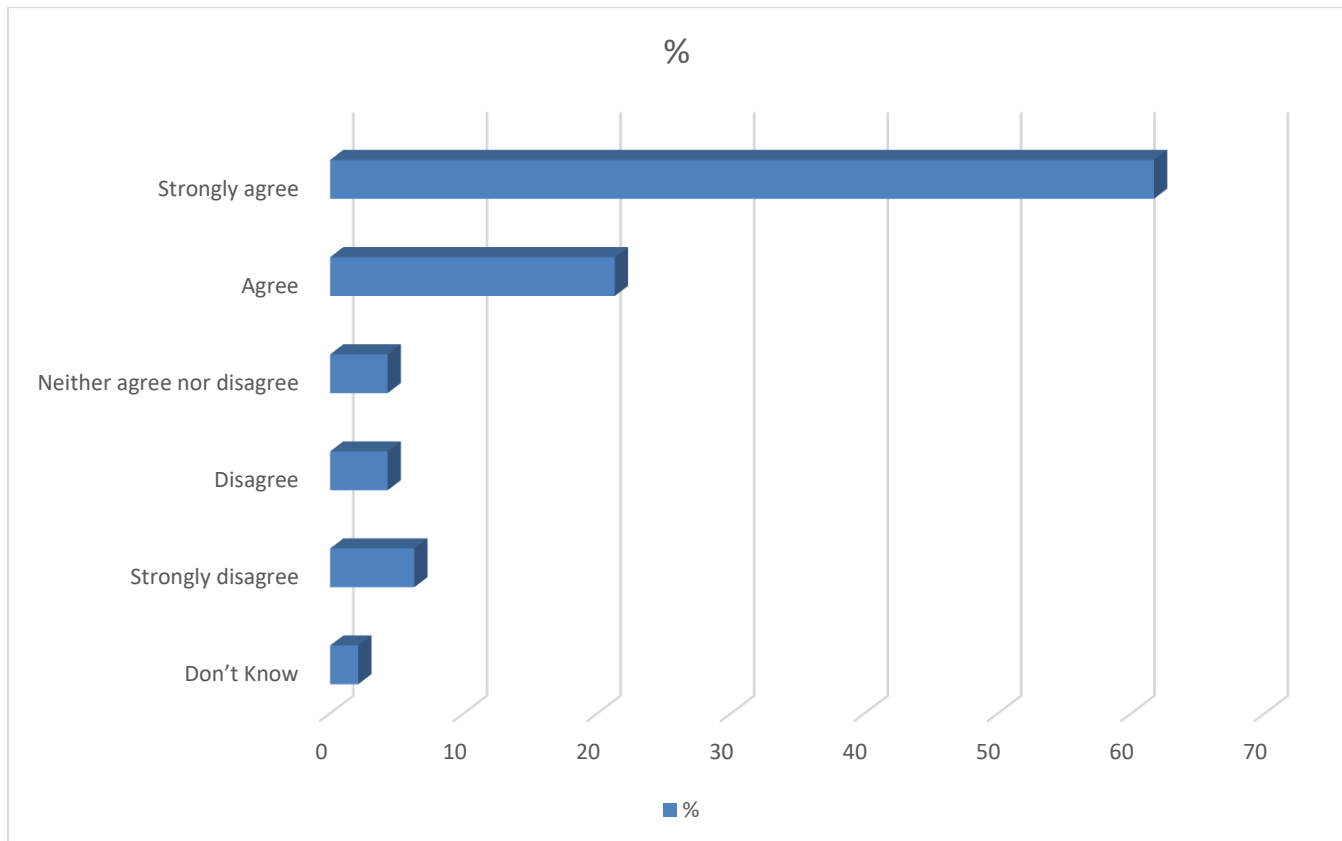
Online Survey Response

Number of responses received – 47

Public consultation meeting

Number of attendees - 0

Do you agree with the proposal to relocate Park Community Academy sixth form provision to The Oracle?



Response	%	No
Strongly agree	61.7%	29
Agree	21.3%	10
Neither agree nor disagree	4.3%	2
Disagree	4.3%	2
Strongly disagree	6.3%	3
Don't know	2.1%	1

The outcome was that 83% of all respondents supported the proposal.



Responding to Feedback

Set out below are the key questions raised and concerns that emerged from the consultation, and also a summary of comments made. These have been considered and our responses are as follows:

Questions to address

When will the transition happen?

It is hoped that the students will be transitioned once the building has been signed off for use, all the appropriate consents have been received and a lease is in place with Blackpool Council. This could be as early as January 2022, depending on when the consent is received from the Department for Education.

This will have a big effect on businesses that already use the building.

We are working with the council in order to preserve as much of the existing community use as possible. Community users currently occupy the building mostly after the PCA students will have left for the day. We have had a meeting already directly with the council and some of these users where we have highlighted the rooms that will continue to be available.

We have used the Oracle every Tuesday evening since the building opening in the Community, we are Broadway Stars Morris Dancers, self funded, non paid volunteers, voluntary group for children and young adults, we have the main dance studio, green room and another room provided every Tuesday evening from 5pm to 9pm, we play a massive part to the children and young adults in the community and would like to keep our Tuesday evenings for consistency. we are happy for park school to expand and happy to accommodate any pupils that would like to come along and enjoy our group weekly too

Evening use on a Tuesday evening can still continue, to start at 5pm. Blackpool Council will continue to run the building in those hours. We are excited about the new opportunities that being based at The Oracle may bring to our students, including them being more aware of different community groups that may exist in the town.

My child would struggle transitioning to another building when he has been at the Whitegate Drive site for so long.

Pros and cons. Kids would benefit from more space but it's a long way from what is familiar to them. Long distance to travel especially when the transport application has turned so in depth.

The staff at PCA will work with the students and families to ensure an effective and timely phased transition from WSFC to The Oracle. Young people will be supported by existing and familiar staff who have a full understanding of their individual needs. PCA will also work closely with the Blackpool transport team to support this transition.



Unsure as to how well it will work if staff have to go between the two sites. Otherwise it seems like a good fit for the pupils and PCA.

The PCA timetable for 21/22 has been written to facilitate this move. A full time core team of staff have been allocated to The Oracle provision. Additional specialist teachers have been timetabled for blocks of time ensuring that they will not be adversely impacted with the need to travel between sites.

Will the Oracle be open earlier and available for later collection. It will add 20 minutes daily to my journey at least. I work and may need to drop off earlier/pick up later

In the first instance the timings of the school day will remain the same as on the Whitegate site. After school clubs will continue to be offered twice a week.

For my son and myself The Oracle is much closer to home, however it recently was a unit for children that were too disruptive to be taught in a mainstream classroom. A lot of these kids seem to hang around the area as the area is familiar and they have friends there. This will make Westbury students extremely vulnerable to unwanted behaviour. I would definitely take my son out of Westbury if the move goes ahead. What about the children using public transport?? Whos going to protect them after school??

As is currently practised on the Whitegate site, staff would supervise beginning and end of day procedures to ensure all learners are effectively safeguarded.

My main concern will be the safety aspect. Will doors be fitted with job activated locks like at PCA? With the oracle being on such a busy main road, with no boundaries as there are at Westbury, this is a big concern for me.

The building has already had additional safeguarding measures put in place; an additional fobbed door in the reception area leading to the teaching spaces, and further alterations are to be made to the external perimeter fence.

Comments

Creating a worthwhile and beneficial location for our people to gain further life skills.

From a capacity point of view it makes sense to relocate Park's 6th form provision. It will also enable the 6th formers to have their own space, allowing a graduating to college style transition. I believe The Oracle would provide an excellent facility for Park's 6th formers to develop independent life skills.

I think this is a fantastic and exciting relocation for the students at WSFC which will enable them to have access to even more wonderful opportunities and resources in an age appropriate environment.

I think it will be great 'step out into the world' for our young adults, but still under the wing of PCA



This would be an excellent “ half way house”, allowing learners to move securely between their familiar learning environment and the wider community.

the building would enable the sixth form to set up an enterprise activity / work life skills experience in the larger space provided

It would be good as there is a lot of children that need the special education and resources available to them

I think this would be a fantastic space for the older sixth formers. In a more accessible area to help build independence and confidence.

Real opportunity for our pupils to transition into adulthood in the right setting. The building itself would open up new experiences and help prepare all learners for the future. Great potential for the future of PCA and Blackpool SEND across the town.

I feel this change would be a huge step forward for our students, this would help to develop their independence and give them that extra safe space to learn and grow as young people.

It's closer to where I live and would take less time for the school run

I think this is a very good idea to give the students more room and also make available more spaces for the future students

I believe this will benefit those post 16 and give them independence and a chance to have their own space

I think that this will be a fantastic opportunity for the post 16 students in Park

This will provide an excellent opportunity for learners to transition out of the 'school' environment and benefit from a space that will prepare them for the next stage of their lives.

This move will benefit learners of all ages by creating space for pre 16 students as well as post 16.

I believe that The Oracle offers greater opportunities to PCA's sixth form and I fully support the proposal.



This will be an excellent and exciting opportunity for the young adults of PCA. It will allow more pupils to benefit from the excellent post 16 provision we provide as it is a larger building. The building will also help to develop the enterprise skills of our pupils with its on-site café etc.

Conclusion

We have considered all of the responses and still firmly believe that the relocation from Westbury to The Oracle will be within the best interests for our learners their families and the local community. We believe this move will provide our learners with an even better environment which will further help them to achieve the greatest possible outcomes and independence in preparation for adulthood.

We understand that the move will potentially cause logistical problems for a small number of learners, but we as a school and Trust will be fully committed to removing any barriers they may have and ensure that all young people are happy and supported throughout their educational journey at PCA. The new base will have the same supportive, age appropriate and nurturing environment which ensures that all PCA learners achieve the very best outcomes.

Overall the support from all the stakeholders has been positive and we hope that we have addressed any concerns satisfactorily.

Next Steps

The Department for Education's guidance on making changes to open academies has been taken into account and a full business case will now be submitted. We will continue to work closely with Blackpool Council on ensuring the provision is the best it can be and ensuring that all the relevant regulations and guidance are followed. Updates on the progress will be made on social media and the school's website, and parents/carers of those learners affected will be kept fully up to date.

October 2021