

CST Trinity Academy

Frequently asked questions from section 10 consultation events

Q: When can we see the admissions arrangements?

A: The admissions arrangements are now available online at:
www.trinityacademybristol.org/section-10-consultation/

Q: What other sites were considered for the school?

A: A number of alternative sites have been explored in determining where to locate the new secondary school. The Trust believes that the proposed site adjoining Stoke Park Primary School is the best site for a range of reasons including the ability to work with the local community and to continue to build on the areas of expertise that are developed effectively at Stoke Park Primary School including dance, drama and gymnastics.

Q: What other schools were considered to open a new secondary school in Bristol?

A: Cathedral Schools Trust applied to open the new secondary school as part of a national process by which any group including other secondary schools that wants to propose a new school can apply.

Q: How were the draft admissions arrangements produced?

A: The Trust has worked closely with Bristol City Council in designing the draft admission arrangements for CST Trinity Academy. Key principles behind the catchment areas include the need to support the requirements of the immediate locality as an inner catchment area and with Stoke Park Primary as the feeder school. In addition there is a need to respond to the shortage of places at secondary school level in north Bristol and ensure there is not a detrimental impact on other secondary schools in the area. The admission arrangements for the new secondary school will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis.

Q: How will the two schools - Stoke Park Primary and CST Trinity Academy - work together?

A: There are lots of opportunities for joint working across different year groups and shared use of facilities across the two schools - for example enabling students in Year 7 to work with those in key stage 1 or key stage 2 on common themes or projects and ensuring that all students benefit from available opportunities.

Q: How can we apply to the new secondary school?

A: It is the Trust's hope that all applications can be made through Bristol City Council's coordinated admissions process, pending agreement by the Department for Education. There will be a series of open evenings in the autumn and an opportunity for parents to meet the Principal Designate once appointed and find out more about the new school. Prospective students and their parents are welcome to attend either at local events or those that will be held at Bristol Cathedral Choir School.

Q: What will be the impact on students going into Year 7 if the school isn't built and they are the first cohort?

A: Year 7 students in September 2019 will have an exciting opportunity to witness first hand their school being built. They will also be able to influence some aspects of the final look and feel of the school.

Q: Will the construction of the new secondary school have any impact on student's experience and learning e.g. during SATs?

A: Both CST and Stoke Park Primary School will work closely with Bristol City Council to ensure that there is no disruption to children's learning. Careful consideration will be given to both the primary school and any temporary accommodation provided to ensure that building work does not impact on daily provision of lessons and that those working on the construction site understand the needs of students.

Q: What about the impact of traffic and transport?

A: Bristol City Council will work closely with the school and CST to make improvements to traffic conditions and to make sure that the new school has a sustainable travel plan. Bristol City Council confirmed that they have commissioned a Highways Report and will be looking at ways to join up and coordinate with additional housing planned in the area.

Q: Why did you not consult sooner on the new secondary school?

A: Neither the Trust, Stoke Park Primary School nor Bristol City Council were able to discuss the proposal publicly at an earlier date due to commercial sensitivities around the site. The consultation process on whether there should be a new secondary school is now open and we would like to hear from as many people as possible before the consultation closes on 15 June 2018. There will be further consultation on the building and site layout as part of the planning application process later in the year.

Q: How long will the secondary school be in temporary accommodation and what will the temporary site be like?

A: It is the current expectation that the new building will be delivered and ready for pupils in time for September 2020. The school will work hard to minimise disruption and plan work so that construction takes place around pupils' requirements.

Q: How will the school serve the community, for example outside of the school day?

A: CST is currently in the early stages of the design process for the new school and the community aspect is a key consideration in the design. For example, we are looking to ensure that there is a range of facilities including a dance studio, hall space and sporting facilities that can be used by the community.

Q: How will CST Trinity Academy be different to Bristol Cathedral Choir School?

A: The new secondary school will still deliver the National Curriculum and offer a broad and balanced curriculum. The school will have its own ethos and vision but will also work in partnership with BCCS for example by creating a joint post-16 curriculum.

Q: Will the school have a similar focus on academic subjects?

A: Yes, alongside the focus on the arts, the school is committed to delivering a high quality curriculum with a full range of academic subjects as well as some vocational subjects at GCSE and A-level.

Q: Is this a done deal and therefore what is the point of this consultation?

A: No. The consultation is a vital part of the process towards opening a new school and it is important to get the views of the community and key stakeholders as part of the process. The Department for Education will have the final decision on whether the school should open.

Q: How will the pastoral needs of students be met and what will be the provision for children with learning difficulties?

A: The Trust has experience of supporting children with a wide range of needs and will put in place a range of pastoral support to meet students' different needs and to ensure that staff have the necessary training and experience to do this.

Q: How will you work with other schools?

A: CST will continue to work closely with other schools as part of the process of opening this school, ensuring that we draw on the different expertise of other schools and work collaboratively. CST will also draw on wider teaching school networks to ensure the new school gets the best possible expertise and input.

Q: How do you recruit staff currently? Do you have a high standard of recruitment and how do you support CPD of staff?

A: Yes, the Trust receives good numbers of applications for roles and is able to attract strong applicants with excellent retention. The trust currently runs NQT and middle leadership programmes and encourages staff to take part in CPD opportunities.

Q: Can you confirm that the intake numbers will be 120 pupils in 2019 and 180 pupils each year after that?

A: These are the numbers that we are working towards but it will depend on the temporary accommodation that is agreed and the progress of the new school building project. We are focussed on those pupil numbers as we need to have enough pupils in the first few years to be able to offer a full balanced curriculum.

Q: Where will the temporary accommodation be?

A: This has not yet been decided but we are hopeful that it will be in the local area and we are also hopeful that any investment in temporary accommodation can have short and long term benefits for Stoke Park Primary School and the new school site.

Q: Can the public see the building plans for the new school yet?

A: We are currently in the design stage for the new school and we have completed some blocking design and mock-ups. Architects have been appointed and they are now undertaking more in depth design work. We expect that there will be some plans available for the public to view during the pre-planning process and then full plans will be available for the building planning application process which we expect will take place later in the year.

Q: Will the build be restricted to the footprint of the old school on the site or will it extend beyond that?

A: We hope to achieve a campus feel for the new school. We expect the majority of the new building will be located on the site of the old school but there will also be shared facilities (e.g. multi-purpose sports facilities) which will be located between the two schools.

Q: Can you confirm that there is funding available for the temporary accommodation?

A: Yes the Department of Education will be providing the funding for the temporary accommodation.

Q: Is there any risk that the new school will take facilities away from Stoke Park Primary School?

A: There will be no adverse impact to the main buildings at Stoke Park Primary School. The temporary accommodation may involve part of the Stoke Park Primary School site but this joint accommodation solution will have benefits for all children across both phases (e.g. IT upgrades, relationship building for children and staff). Some sports facilities may be shared across both sites and children from both schools will have access to these facilities.

Q: Are Bristol City Council in support of the project?

A: Yes Bristol City Council are in full support of the project and they have been heavily involved in all decisions so far. The new school has formal cabinet approval and BCC are project managing the build process in partnership with CST.

Q: Would it be possible to provide a dedicated cycling route to the new school?

A: All suggestions on traffic management will be considered as part of the building planning process.

Q: Will you offer a broad range of co- and extra- curricular activities?

A: We are firmly committed to offering our pupils a wide range of co- and extra- curricular opportunities from the day the school opens. We will work in partnership with Stoke Park Primary School, Bristol Cathedral Choir School and other local schools to offer a broad range of

activities and opportunities. We will foster existing partnerships and offer new opportunities for all pupils.

Q: Will the new school be a faith school?

A: No. Bristol Cathedral Choir School is the only faith school within the Trust currently. We welcome pupils from all faiths and none and we welcome diversity. The Trust and its Trustees are committed to balance throughout the Trust.

Q: Will the pupils still have the opportunity to perform at the 'Stages' competition?

A: Absolutely, that is exactly the sort of opportunity that we would love to be involved with.

Q: Will there also be opportunities for pupils who are very interested in sport as well as those who enjoy music and the performing arts?

A: We are fully committed to offering a balanced curriculum for all pupils, whatever their interests. We know that 'one size does not fit all' and that children remain engaged and motivated in education through a variety of means. We will offer options for all pupils to achieve their full potential academically but also through co-curricular activities including sport, music, dance and drama.