

Kings Moat Community Primary School Section 10 Consultation Report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kings Moat Community Primary School is a new state-of-the-art primary school being built in the new Kings Moat Garden Village, Chester.

The Kings Moat Garden Village is a substantial new community of around 1,300 homes on the southern edge of Chester. Once all phases of the surrounding Kings Moat housing development off Wrexham Road are complete, the school would sit centrally within the development with new homes surrounding the school and be located close to the new community playing fields, 3G pitches and the new public park.

The school, which is being established by Sandstone Trust, will provide places for 310 pupils and include a 26-place nursery. The school is scheduled to open in September 2026.

Construction work to build the new school, being managed by Cheshire West and Chester Council and the Department for Education, has recently begun.

As part of the pre-opening process, Sandstone Trust is statutorily required to undertake a Section 10 consultation with the local community and key stakeholders. This consultation seeks views on whether the Department for Education (DfE) should enter into a Funding Agreement with the Trust, which is the formal contract that allows the school to be funded and run by the Trust.

The Section 10 Consultation was conducted over a six-week period, from Thursday 5th June 2025 to Sunday 13th July 2025 (40 days).

The Trust sought to engage a wide range of stakeholders, including:

- Local parents and carers
- Local residents
- Sandstone Trust employees and trustees
- Staff and governors from other local schools
- Elected representatives and local authority representatives
- Other interested community members

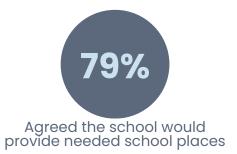
The primary method for gathering feedback was an online survey. This was promoted via a letter distributed to the local community and at two public drop-in events held on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th June 2025, where printed copies of the survey were also available.

The Section 10 consultation for Kings Moat Community Primary School show clear majority support for the Department for Education entering into a Funding Agreement with Sandstone Trust to open the new school.

There is strong agreement that the school is needed to provide necessary places and a local choice for the new Kings Moat Garden Village community.









CONSULTATION APPROACH

The consultation was conducted over a six-week period prior to the school summer holidays, from Thursday 5th June 2025 to Sunday 13th July 2025 (40 days).

Although the principle of building the new school to create necessary school capacity has been established by the developers, local authority and Department for Education, Sandstone Trust sought to engage a wide range of stakeholders in this consultation, including:

- Local parents and carers
- Local residents (inc. developers and residents associations)
- Sandstone Trust employees and trustees
- Staff and governors from other local schools
- Elected representatives and local authority representatives
- Other interested community members

The primary method for gathering feedback was an online survey.

This was promoted via a letter distributed to the local community via email and at two public drop-in events held on Tuesday 17th June and Wednesday 18th June 2025 (at Holiday Inn, Wrexham Road), where members of staff from the Trust, information boards, and printed copies of the survey were also available.

The consultation was also promoted through a local media story published in the Chester Standard (20th June) to promote building work beginning on the new school.

A specific web page was also created to host information about the Kings Moat Community Primary School, and provide a direct link to the online survey: www.sandstonetrust.co.uk/trustinformation/kings-moat-community-primary-school The survey asked respondents the following key questions:

- Do you agree that opening Kings Moat Community Primary School will provide necessary school places for the new Kings Moat Garden Village community? (Yes/No/Unsure)
- Do you agree that opening Kings Moat Community Primary School will provide a local choice for parents who live at Kings Moat Garden Village? (Yes/No/Unsure)
- Do you agree that Sandstone Trust's vision and ethos for Kings Moat Community Primary School will meet the needs of the local community? (Yes/No/Unsure)
- Should the Sandstone Trust enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education to open the Kings Moat Community Primary School? (Yes/No/Unsure)

The survey also asked respondents for their feedback on the different services they would like the school to offer for the local community, and for their preferences on school branding and identity. These questions included:

- Are there any services, both educationally and for the community, that you would like the school to offer? (Comment Box)
- Preference sliders on different branding styles (respondents could place the slider anywhere on a continuum to highlight their preferences based on two different words)
- Please add any further comments below that you feel should be incorporated into the school identity. (Comment Box)

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Respondent Profile

- Total Survey Responses: 125
- Respondent Breakdown:
 - Parent/Carer: 43 (34.4%)
 - o Sandstone Trust employee or trustee: 34 (27.2%)
 - Local resident: 25 (20%)
 - Member of staff or governor within another local school: 19 (15.2%)
 - o Other: 3 (2.4%)
 - Elected representative: 1 (0.8%)
- Attendees at Drop-In Events: 41

Respondent Location

The survey asked respondents how far they live from the new school site. The responses indicate strong engagement from the immediate local community.

- Within Kings Moat Garden Village: 49 (39.2%)
- Within 1 mile: 14 (11.2%)
- Within 3 miles: 14 (11.2%)
- Within 5 miles: 7 (5.6%)
- Further than 5 miles: 41 (32.8%)

Respondent Feedback

The central question of the consultation was whether the Sandstone Trust should enter into a Funding Agreement with Department for Education to open the school.

- 76.8% (96 respondents) agreed that the Trust should enter into a Funding Agreement.
- 12% (15 respondents) disagreed.
- 11.2% (14 respondents) were unsure.

The survey also gauged opinion on the need for the school and the Trust's vision.

- On providing necessary school places: 79.2% agreed the school will provide necessary places for the new community (99 respondents).
- On providing local choice: 84% agreed the school will provide a local choice for parents (105 respondents)
- On the Trust's vision and ethos: 62.4% agreed the vision and ethos will meet the community's needs (78 respondents), though a significant portion (28.8%, 36 respondents) were unsure.

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Community Services

Respondents provided a wide range of suggestions for community services. An analysis of the comments identified several key themes:

- Wraparound Care: This was the most frequently raised point, with 18 separate comments specifically requesting breakfast and after-school clubs to support working families.
- Community Use of Facilities: The desire for the school to be a community hub was clear, with 12 comments suggesting that facilities like the school hall and 3G pitch should be available for community hire outside of school hours.
- Educational Opportunities: A broad curriculum was important to respondents. There were 10 mentions of outdoor and 'Forest School' education, with further comments requesting a strong focus on both STEM and the Arts.
- SEND Provision: The importance of inclusive education was highlighted, with 5 comments specifically mentioning the need for excellent provision and support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
- Early Years & Family Services: 4 respondents suggested services such as parent and toddler groups that could be linked to the school's nursery.

School Identity

When asked for comments to be incorporated into the school's identity, key themes included:

- Local & Historical References: 9 respondents suggested the school's identity should connect to the local area, with specific mentions of Chester's Roman heritage and a desire to understand the history of the "King's Moat" name itself.
- School Ethos: 7 comments focused on the school's culture, expressing a desire for a "warm, fun and safe" environment where children feel supported and can be "proud" of their school.
- Environment and Sustainability: A smaller number of respondents (3) mentioned the importance of nature and the environment, with suggestions including renewable energy, recycling, and access to green facilities.

School Identity - Branding Style Preferences



CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Keeping Informed

45 respondents provided their contact details to be kept informed of the school's development and future admissions.

CONCLUSION

The Section 10 consultation process for Kings Moat Community Primary School generated a positive response from the community. The results show clear majority support for the Sandstone Trust and Department for Education to enter into a Funding Agreement to open the new school.

There is strong agreement that the school is needed to provide necessary places and a local choice for the new Kings Moat Garden Village community.

The qualitative feedback has provided valuable insight into the community's expectations regarding wraparound care, community use of facilities, and the desire for a broad curriculum.

This feedback, along with comments on the school's identity, will be considered by Sandstone Trust as it moves forward with the school's development.

Sandstone Trust will also consider and deliver more community engagement, communication and promotion throughout the next school year to help the community understand more about the school's vision and ethos, as well as build confidence leading up to the school's opening.





Consultation Webpage



KINGS MOAT COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you for visiting the Kings Moat Community Primary School consultation.

We are excited to confirm that work to build the new Kings Moat Community Primary School is already underway, after the council and Department for Education secured planning permission last year.

The state-of-the-art primary school will eventually provide places for 310 pupils and include a 26-place nursery once it has been built. The school is located at the heart of the new (300-home community, and will also include a 36 multi-use games area, and outdoor play and teaching areas.



As the school becomes part of Sandstone frust when it opens, we are incredibly excited and look forward to sharing more details with you as the school building progresses. We are committed to making Kings Moat Community Primary School a place that provides an exceptional, nurturing, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every child can thrive and that the community can be proud of

Over the coming months, we look forward to sharing more information with you about the school as the building takes shape, and as we prepare to open the school for our first-year groups.

Before the school opens in September 2026, we are required to complete a 'Section 10' consultation.

This consultation will be considered before the Department for Education will create a Funding Agreement for the new school. All state schools need to have one of these in place so they can receive funding from the Department for Education for each pupil that attends the school.

While we are consulting with the community, we would also like to understand more about your priorities for your local school, and make sure the school's new identity (e.g. logo etc.) is representative of our local community.

Consultation Survey (Online)

Kings Moat Community Primary School Consultation Survey



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Consultation Survey (Online)

Kings Moat Community Primary School Consultation Survey *1. About you: Which of the following best describes you? O Parent/Carer O Sandstone Trust employee or trustee Member of staff or governor within another local school O Local resident O Local authority representative O Elected representative Other * 2. Approximately, how far away do you live from the Kings Moat Garden Village? O Within Kings Moat Garden Village O Within 1 mile O Within 3 miles O within & miles O Further than 5 miles * 3. Do you agree that opening Kings Moat Community Primary School will provide necessary school places for the new Kings Moat Garden Village community? O Yes O No O Unsure * 4. Do you agree that opening Kings Moat Community Primary School will provide a local choice for parents who live at Kings Moat Garden Village? O Yes

O No O unsure

* 5. Do you agree that Sandstone Trust's vision and ethos for Kings Moat Community Primary School will meet the needs of the local community?	* 10. While the name for the new school has been chosen, we want to make sure the logo and identity of the school reflects the views, aspirations and ambitions of the local community. Using the sliders below, please can you let us know your preferences:
○ Yes	,
O No	tonic Simple
○ Unsure	
* 6. In order for the school to open, a funding agreement will need to be put in place between Sandstone Trust and the Department for Education. Should the Sandstone Trust enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education to open the Kings Moat Community Primary School?	* 11. While the name for the new school has been chosen, we want to make sure the logo and identity of the school reflects the views, aspirations and ambitions of the local community. Using the sliders below, please can you let us know your preferences:
O Yes	* 12. Please add any further comments below that you feel should be incorporated into the school
O No	identity (e.g. historic references).
O Unaure	
	13. OPTIONAL
	OPTIONAL If you would like to be informed of the latest developments or are interested in applying for a place at
8. While the name for the new school has been chosen, we want to make sure the logo and identity of the school reflects the views, aspirations and ambitions of the local community. Using the sliders below, please can you let us know your preferences:	Kings Moat Community Primary School for September 2026, please complete your contact information below. By completing this information, you are consenting to Sandstone Trust contacting you. <u>Click</u> <u>here to view our Privacy Policy</u> .
Modern Classical	Name
	Address
* 9. While the name for the new school has been chosen, we want to make sure the logo and identity of	Address 2
the school reflects the views, aspirations and ambitions of the local community. Using the sliders below, please can you let us know your preferences:	City/Town
	ZIP/Postal Code
Vibrant Traditional	Email Address
	Phone Number
	Branchase Budwald

SurveyMonkey See how easy it is to create surveys and forms

Consultation Letter



Dear (STAKEHOLDERS)

New Primary School for Kings Moat Garden Village

I am excited to confirm that work to build the new Kings Moat Community Primary School is already underway.

The state-of-the-art primary school will eventually provide places for 310 pupils and include a 26-place nursery. The school is located at the heart of the new 1,300-home <u>community</u>, and will also include a 3G multi-use games area, and outdoor play and teaching areas.

As the Chief Executive of Sandstone Trust, we are incredibly excited and look forward to sharing more details with you as the school building progresses. We are committed to making Kings Moas Community Primary School a place that provides an exceptional, nurturing, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every child can thrive and that the community can be proud of. Over the coming months, we look forward to sharing more information with you about the school as the building takes shape, and as we preser to open the school for our first-year groups.

Community Drop-In Events

To help local people find out more about Kings Moat Community Primary School, we will be hosting some community drop-in events on:

- Tuesday 17th June (4pm 7pm) at the Holiday Inn, Wrexham Road.
- Wednesday 18th June (4pm 7pm) at the Holiday Inn. Wrexham Road.

We would be delighted to meet you, introduce ourselves, including the Headteacher of the school, and share some of the plans for the new school.

Community Consultation

Before the school opens in September 2026, we are required to complete a 'Section 10' consultation. This consultation will be considered before the Department for Education will create a Funding Agreement for the new school. All state schools need to have one of these in place so they can receive funding from the Department for Education for each pupil that attends the school.

We'd like to invite you to complete our survey which can be completed here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KingsMoatCommunityPrimary

Printed copies of the survey can also be completed at the community drop-in events. Our consultation will run for six weeks between Thursday 5° June 2025 and Sunday 13° July 2025.

Jason Lowe

Chief Executive Officer

Trust Head Office (Company Registration No: 08100344)
Dragon Hall House, Dragon Hall, Whitchurch Road, (Djogley, Chester, CH3 90U
T: 01829 731780 E: enquiries@sandstonetrust.co.uk W: www.sandstonetrust.co.uk
CEO: Jason Lowe BA (Blond, Company Socretary: Jonathan Hayes BA (Hons), MBA

Letter Stakeholder Mailing List (Summary/Redacted)

- MP for Chester South and Eddisbury
- Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Cheshire West and Chester Council Cabinet Member (Children, Families, Sports and Recreation)
- Cheshire West and Chester Council Shadow Cabinet Member (Children, Families, Sports and Recreation)
- Cheshire West and Chester Council Directorate
- Cheshire West and Chester Council Localities Officer
- Parish Councils (Doddleston and Eaton)
- Neighbouring Local Authorities Directorate (Flintshire, Wrexham, Cheshire East, Wirral, Trafford, Shropshire and Warrington)
- Headteachers of Local Schools and Nurseries (within 2 miles)
- Local Headteachers Assocation (Chair)
- Diocese (Chester CE Schools, Shrewsbury Catholic Schools)
- Kings Moat Residents Association
- Kings Moat Garden Village Housebuilders (Redrow and Taylor Wimpey)
- Parents and Carers at Sandstone Trust Schools
- Members of Staff at Sandstone Trust Schools

Media Coverage

 www.chesterstandard.co.uk/news/25254245.new-primaryschool-built-chester-named/

Community Drop In Display Boards













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CEO: Jason Lowe BA (Hons) Company Secretary: Jonathan Hayes BA (Hons), MBA