



Proposal to add a Sixth Form: The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial Secondary School

Consultation

9th September – 7th October 2011

Headteacher: Richard Brown

Chair of Governors: Roger Pryce

www.theurswickschool.co.uk

**Consultation on a Proposal to add a Sixth Form at
The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School.**

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Haddii aad jeceshahay in aad ogaato waxa warqadan laguugu sheegaayo, Fadlan waxa aad calaamadisaa Sanduuqan oo waxa aad Magacaaga, Adirayskaaga iyo Telifoon Lambarkaaga aad ku qortaa xagga hoose ee boggan, oo ku soo celi markaa Adirayskan xagga hoose ku qoran. (Somali)

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Nếu quý vị muốn tìm hiểu tài liệu này nói điều gì xin đánh dấu vào ô và ghi tên, địa chỉ và số điện thoại của quý vị vào cuối trang này và gửi về địa chỉ dưới đây. (Vietnamese)

এই দলিলে কি লেখা আছে সে সম্পর্কে যদি আপনি জানতে চান অনুগ্রহ করে সাথের বাক্সে টিক দিন। তারপর পাতাটির নিচে আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা এবং টেলিফোন নাম্বার লিখে নিম্নলিখিত ঠিকানায় ফেরৎ পাঠান। (Bengali)

જો તમને આ દસ્તાવેજ ચું જણાવે છે તે વિષે માહિતી જોઈતી હોય તો મહેરબાની કરીને બોક્સમાં નિશાની કરી અને આ પાનાના અંતમાં તમારું નામ, સરનામું અને ટેલિફોન નંબર આપી અને તેને નીચે સરનામે રવાના કરશો. (Gujerati)

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਜਾਣਨਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਕਿ ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਕੀ ਕਹਿੰਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਖਾਨੇ ਵਿਚ ਠੀਕਾ ਮਾਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਆਪਣਾ ਨਾਂ, ਪਤਾ ਅਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਇਸ ਪੰਨੇ ਦੇ ਬੱਲੇ ਲਿਖੋ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਹੇਠ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਪਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਵਾਪਸ ਭੇਜ ਦਿਓ। (Punjabi)

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Si desea saber de lo que trata este documento, ponga una señal en el recuadro y escriba su nombre, dirección y número de teléfono al final de esta página y envíela a la dirección que se indica abajo. (Spanish)

اگر آپ یہ جاننا چاہتے ہیں کہ دستاویز میں کیا لکھا ہے تو وزارت کرم باکس میں ایک صحیح کا نشان لگائیے اور اپنا نام، پتہ اور فون نمبر اس صطحہ کے نیچے لکھئے اور اسے نیچے دینے کے پتے پر واپس بھیج دیجئے۔ (Urdu)

Return to: Sixth Form Proposal, Sam Robson,
The Urswick School, Paragon Road, Hackney, London E9 6NR (0208 985 2430)
Return by: 5pm on 7th October 2011

Your Name (please print):

Address:

Tel No.

Consultation on a Proposal to add a Sixth Form at The Urswick School

9th September – 7th October 2011

Contents	Page No
What is this information about?	4
What does the proposal include and when will it start?	5
The Urswick School	5
How will a sixth form benefit our students?	6
How will our curriculum benefit from having a sixth form?	7
Our building	8
Next steps	8
Proposed timetable	9
Consultation Meetings	9
Glossary	
Appendix 1: Consultation list	10
Appendix 2: Key facts about post 16 provision	11
Appendix 3: Resident population cohort	12
Consultation Response Form	13

What is this information about?

The Governing Body is seeking views on a proposal to add a sixth form to The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School, as part of the overall development of 14 -19 education in Hackney. This is your opportunity to let us know what you think about this proposal.

This paper contains:

- 1 an explanation of the proposal
- 2 a response form for you to complete and return to us, letting us know your views
- 3 details of meetings for staff and parents/carers that will be arranged to help the consultation

Please send your completed questionnaire to:

Sixth Form Proposal
Sam Robson
The Urswick School
Paragon Road
Hackney
E9 6NR

Or e-mail your comments or queries to:

srobson@theurswickschool.co.uk

If you have specific questions about the proposal please contact Richard Brown, Headteacher on telephone number: 0208 985 2430, or by email to admin@theurswickschool.co.uk

This document and response form are also available online by visiting our website:

www.theurswickschool.co.uk

This consultation will close on 7th October 2011.

This report will be provided in other languages or in large print upon request. A form on the inside cover is included for anyone who would like the document translated into another language.

What does the proposal include and when will it start?

The Governing Body of The Urswick School is proposing to add a sixth form, providing up to 300 16-19 places for 16-19 year old students. We propose that the first intake of 150 students will be in September 2012. The sixth form is expected to be full by 2015. Students on roll at the school and up to 10 external students in each year group will be able to apply for a place in the sixth form. The admission criteria will be consistent with existing principles within the borough. The long term vision is to ensure that there will be sufficient post-16 places in the borough to meet the needs of all Hackney learners.

The Governors of the Urswick School believe that the addition of a sixth form will:

1. provide a much needed direct post 16 progression route for students at the school;
2. develop a culture of continuous learning which will raise aspirations for younger students;
3. increase the provision for the borough of Hackney as a whole, thus strengthening the borough as an education provider.

We believe that the addition of a sixth form will enhance the character of our school and have a positive impact across the borough of Hackney.

The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial

The Urswick School is a small Church of England mixed inner city school located in the centre of Hackney both geographically and historically. Christopher Urswick founded our school in 1520 to educate the poor boys of Hackney; more than 490 years later, we still aim to uphold his original vision - being at the very heart of our community, raising the aspirations of our children through free, high quality education. It is in memory of his commitment that we have renamed our brand new school The Urswick School, in state of the art facilities which have been provided by the Building Schools for the Future Scheme (BSF). Our educational philosophy is based on Christian principles of respect for all people, care for the individual, forgiveness and the equality of opportunity. We welcome families of all faiths and no faith who share in our values. Our most recent Ofsted inspection in 2009 noted that "children of different religions feel at home in an environment where all are respected," and that "the exceptional quality of care is an outstanding feature of the school" (Ofsted 2009).

Our students

The Urswick School serves an area of diverse culture, ethnicity and faith with high levels of socio-economic disadvantage. We have a significantly higher number of boys than girls currently on roll (446 boys and 263 girls). 85% of our students are from ethnic minority groups and 52% of our students have English as an additional language (EAL). Many of our EAL students are Black Caribbean or African, although we have significant numbers of Turkish / Kurdish students also. We take pride in this diversity and promote our international ethos. 54% of our students are recorded to be eligible for free school meals; 19 of our cohort have a statement of special educational need;

40% of students are on the special needs register. These statistics reflect the vulnerability of our cohort (figures taken from Spring 2011 School Census). Despite this, Ofsted noted that: *"The school has a thorough understanding of its local community and has had a strong impact across the local area"* (Ofsted 2009). We firmly believe that the addition of a sixth form to The Urswick School will offer a valuable place for students to continue their learning in our safe and stable environment and will result in more 16 year olds staying in the borough for post 16 education.

We have taken action to dramatically improve students' attainment in the last three years and results have seen a 20% increase within a two year period. Ofsted inspectors were pleased to conclude that our students are now reaching national standards. The progress is made is such that we are now in a position to offer a post 16 curriculum so that students who have made rapid progress with us can continue to do so.

How will a sixth form benefit our students?

The majority of our students (approximately 73%) progressed to post 16 education or training outside the borough in 2010. Of those remaining in the borough, only two students secured places in a Hackney secondary school sixth form and the remainder moved on to vocational courses at Hackney Community College and BSix. This data shows that our students, who do not have to travel very far to go to school, are on the other hand faced with long journeys to reach their post 16 destinations. It has been no surprise for us to hear travel being cited as a contributing factor when students fail to complete a post 16 course and return to us for advice about local post 16 providers. Given that our students by and large travel outside the borough to a range of institutions, we feel that opening our own sixth form will fulfil a need for our students without having significant negative impact on other local providers.

Most of the current destinations of Urswick School students are currently oversubscribed and it is often the case that students do not get their preferred Advanced level curriculum. In addition the entry requirements for sixth form vary tremendously; for example some provisions only accept students achieving 5 grade Bs at GCSE. They are able to do this as they are hugely oversubscribed. The Urswick School has approached other schools in the borough to seek a preferred route for our students post 16 but none have been prepared to offer guaranteed places. Therefore our Year 11 students are currently the only 16 year olds in the borough without a guaranteed place to continue their education in a Hackney school environment post 16.

We know that the population growth in Hackney means that school cohorts will need to grow significantly in the coming years. If we do not have a sixth form, this population growth will put greater pressure on our students who will find even more competition in the post 16 market. In addition there is a great deal of intellectual capital in the borough related to opening a successful school sixth form. We will actively seek to learn from this knowledge and experience from other local schools to ensure that our sixth form recruits, retains and facilitates high achievement for our students.

How will a sixth form benefit our curriculum?

Specialist sports college status

We are a Specialist Sports College and September 2009 OFSTED reported that '*through the Sports Specialism students participate in high levels of physical exercise ... as a result students' adoption of healthy lifestyles is excellent*'. Over the years we have used our expertise in sport and physical activity to raise standards in all aspects of the school's curriculum. We are currently enjoying our brand new state of the art sports facilities including a sports hall, dance studio and dedicated PE theory classroom – and look forward to the final stage of our new build which will provide us with top quality outside PE training surfaces. These facilities provide us with the perfect springboard to extend our sports curriculum and leadership development into post 16 provision.

Science specialism

Since July 2010 our second specialism has been Science. Facilities for the teaching of Science in our new building are now superb and the Science department benefits from an Advanced Skills Teacher who is leading on improvements. Since 2009, our Science team have delivered bespoke student and staff support across our EAZ partner primary schools and Horizon special school. We see the development of A Level and BTEC Level 3 courses as a natural progression for us in continuing to develop this specialism.

SEN/EAL learners

Our support for our EAL and SEN learners is strong and our most recent Ofsted report noted the good progression rates of these learners. Feedback from these learners informs us that post 16, many struggle with a curriculum offer which doesn't provide a smooth continuum from KS4 and without sufficient support to meet their needs. We feel that the potential to continue appropriate courses to Levels 2 & 3 in house would support many of these students in achieving higher levels during KS5 in a familiar, nurturing environment.

Partnerships

The development of a robust, comprehensive and challenging post 16 curriculum is important to us and in this area we are delighted to be able to draw on our already successful partnership work with two key organisations.

Our close working relationship with our London Diocesan Board of Schools (LDBS) partner St Marylebone School will continue. St Marylebone is an accredited training school and last academic year, one of their senior teachers provided extensive high quality training for our Advanced Skills Teachers (and aspiring ASTs) as well as partnering the Modern Foreign Languages Department to support them in raising aspirations and student attainment. We know that we will be able to develop this partnership in the coming years as we launch our post 16 provision.

The Education and Skills White Paper expects that "each young person will have access" to post 16 education "within a reasonable distance of home," and that "providers will ensure that between them they are making a full offer to young people."

We have for some years now been working in partnership with Hackney Community College to support our students in this regard. We provide pastoral support for our former students on roll at Hackney Community College and have a dedicated 'Head of Sixth' who also works to support vulnerable Year 11 students with transition. In addition The Urswick School provides teachers to deliver A Level courses at Hackney Community College. We are looking forward to joint plans for 2011-12 to have Hackney Community College A Level lessons taught by our staff on The Urswick School site. We anticipate that the opening of a sixth form will strengthen this particular partnership even further.

Our building

Following the completion of the new buildings under the Hackney Building Schools for the Future Programme (BSF) in September 2011 we will have sufficient accommodation to meet the needs of a new sixth form. In addition the school will ensure that the following is in place by September 2012 if our proposal is agreed:

- more effective and efficient timetabling to free up existing spaces in the new buildings for the teaching of the sixth form, including the use of seminar rooms and breakout spaces;
- the designation of a dedicated learning space for private study for sixth form students;
- installation of an additional modular building to house a dedicated Sixth Form suite including a common room and administrative area.

As an Extended School our site is open to learners from 7.30am to 6pm. Thus the sixth form will have access to onsite provision from 7.30 am to 6pm and on Saturdays through our current Saturday School provision. Our developing use of the Kaleidos network will also ensure that students can learn independently from school.

Next steps

The Governing Body of the Urswick School welcomes views from all stakeholders on the proposal set out in this paper. All views expressed during this consultation will be reported to and considered by the Governing Body at their meeting on 12th October 2011.

If the Governing Body decide that a formal proposal to add a sixth form to The Urswick School is the best way forward, a statutory notice which will be published providing further opportunity for views to be registered. Following the conclusion of the notice period, The Learning Trust will make a decision on the proposal to add a sixth form to the school.

Proposed timetable

Date	Action
9th September 2011 – 7th October 2011	Consultation period including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Circulation of consultation paper to stakeholders (see list, appendix 1) ▪ Meetings with key stakeholders ▪ Advertisement in local paper
12th October	The Governing Body considers the responses to the consultation and determines whether to issue a statutory notice.
<i>If the Governing Body agree to publish Statutory notices then</i>	
13th October 2011	Publication of statutory notices
November 2011 <i>(date to be confirmed)</i>	The Board of the Learning Trust meets to consider the proposal

If The Learning Trust does not agree with the proposal, the local Church of England diocese can appeal the decision.

Consultation Meetings

The consultation will run from 9th September to 7th October 2011 and will include meetings with key stakeholders. We will seek to provide interpreters on prior request. A full list of people and parties we will consult is attached as appendix 1.

Audience	Date	Time
Staff	7 th September 2011	9.30
Parents/Carers and wider community	19 th September 2011	4.00 – 5.00 in The Breary Hall, The Urswick School

Glossary

Appendix 1: Consultation list

We aim to consult with as many people and interested groups as possible including:

- Students on roll at the Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School
- Parents and carers of students on roll at Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School
- Staff at Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School
- Governors of Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School
- Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all Hackney Schools and Headteachers of secondary schools in other boroughs within a three-mile radius of the school
- Local FE providers and Six Form College
- Work Based Learning Providers
- The YPLA
- Trade Unions
- Hackney School Governors Association (HASGA)
- Neighbouring LAs including Islington, Haringey, Waltham Forrest, Tower Hamlets, Newham, City of London
- Hackney Councillors
- Hackney Council
- Hackney MPs
- Local community groups and business partners
- London Diocesan Board
- The Diocese of Westminster
- Interlink Network for the Orthodox Jewish Community
- Other community members who may be affected by the proposal

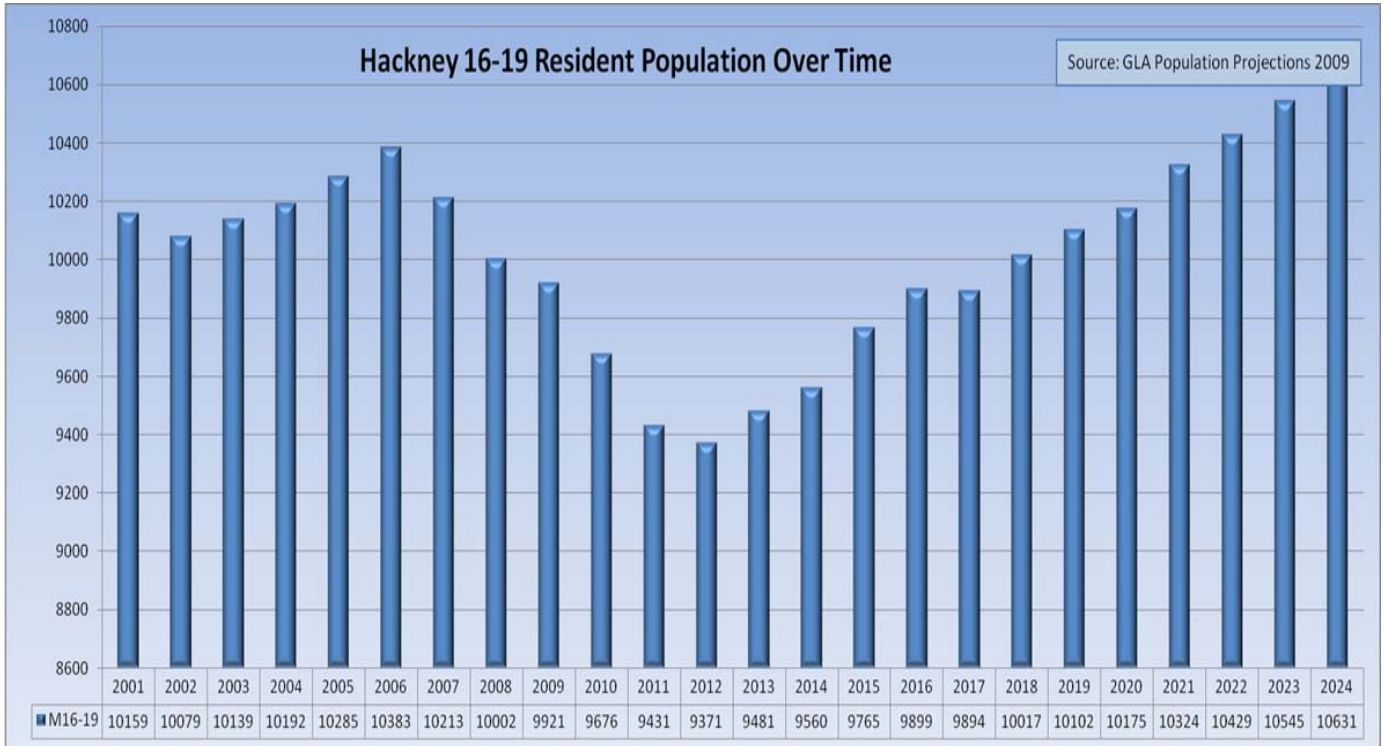
Appendix 2: Key facts about provision for 16-19 year olds in Hackney

- Hackney post-16 provision in the borough is currently available in the following institutions:
 - Bridge Academy (which will start in September 2012, and like The Urswick School, will enable its own students to progress from Year 11 to Year 12 and 13 within the same school environment)
 - Bsix Sixth Form College
 - Cardinal Pole Roman Catholic School
 - Clapton Girls' Technology College
 - The Community College, Hackney
 - Mossbourne Community Academy
 - Our Lady's Convent High School
 - The Petchey Academy
 - Skinners' Academy
 - Stoke Newington School
 - Ickburgh School
 - Work based learner providers
- The total year 11 cohort in Hackney schools in 2011 is 1447, an increase of 142 since 2010 yet the year 12 school population decreased by 49, from 546 to 497 during the same period. In addition approximately one third of Hackney residents per year group currently go out of the borough for 11-16 education. School and resident population growth over the next ten years will add to the demand for places, see Appendix 2.
- Secondary provision has been expanded in Hackney through the introduction of three Academies. The first, Mossbourne Community Academy, opened in 2004. The Petchey and Bridge Academies opened in 2006 and 2007 respectively. These changes together with population growth were expected to increase the number of year 11 learners significantly. Recent figures published by the YPLA show an expected increase of 10% (485 students) in the 16-18 age group in Hackney in 2013/14. (source: School Census)
- The Raising of the Participation Age to 17 years by 2013 and 18 years by 2015 will result in the need for more places in both education and training institutions across the borough.
- Projected employment opportunities indicate a shortage of people with level 3 skills in the borough.
- Current research into the participation and achievement of Hackney post-16 provision indicates that a higher proportion of level 3 students are choosing to pursue their studies outside Hackney than those staying in Hackney. The colleges particularly are seeing a higher proportion of entry level, level 1 and level 2 students compared with school sixth forms within and outside the borough.

In this context, Governors of the Urswick School are committed to becoming the only Church of England secondary school in Hackney which is developing a sixth form in full collaboration with other post 16 providers, both within our partnership and across the borough.

Appendix 3: Resident population cohort

The Resident Population Cohort is expected to increase by circa 500 people from 2011 to 2016, and by circa 1200 by 2024.



Consultation Response Form

Proposal to add a sixth form at The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School

Please return to the following address by 5pm on 7th October 2011:

Sixth Form Proposal
Sam Robson
The Urswick School
Paragon Road
Hackney
E9 6NR

Email: srobson@theurswickschool.co.uk

Name of person
responding

Interest in
The Urswick School –
e.g. student, parent,
staff member,
community member.

Please comment on the proposal to add a sixth form at The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School, in the space below. Please continue over the page if you need to.

Thank you for your response!

Continuation sheet: Comments on the proposal to add a sixth form at The Urswick School, formerly Hackney Free and Parochial School.

A large empty rectangular box intended for handwritten or typed comments on the proposal.