

30 September 2021

Dear madam/ sir,

**North Gosforth Academy: consultation regarding a change to the pupil age range and proposal to remove the sixth form**

Academy trusts considering a change to the characteristics of its schools must undertake consultation in accordance with the Academies Act 2010. In addition, if the changes require alteration to the school's admissions arrangements a separate consultation must also be carried out in agreement with the Admissions Code 2021.

A school's recorded age range should reflect provision at the school correctly. Since 2017 North Gosforth Academy has not enrolled any sixth form students and so the trust has decided to undertake this consultation with a view to recommending to the Regional Schools Commissioner that the sixth form is formally closed and the school changes from an 11-18 school to an academy with an accurate age range of 11-16, with effect from September 2023.

This change will have no impact on other local provision and the education of children in the area will not be compromised. Students from North Gosforth Academy will not be disadvantaged in any way and will continue to have access to the highly successful sixth provision available at the trust's two other secondary schools at Gosforth Academy and Jesmond Park Academy.

The consultation exercise provides opportunity for you to have your say on the proposal. The consultation period for the removal of the sixth form will run for four school weeks from 1 October 2021 to 5 November 2021 and you can share your views by writing to the trust at the below address.

The proposal to remove the sixth form and change the school's age range will also require a variation to the school's admissions arrangements. This means that we must also consult separately on the associated alteration to the admissions arrangement and the removal of the existing entry point at Year 12, with effect from September 2023. The consultation period for changes to the admissions arrangements will run for six school weeks from 1 October 2021 to 19 November 2021 and you can share your views again by writing to the trust at the below address.

Section 1.47 of the Admissions Code 2021 requires the trust as the admissions authority to consult with:

- a) parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
- b) other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- c) all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools);

- d) whichever of the governing body and the local authority is not the admission authority;
- e) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority; and
- f) in the case of schools designated with a religious character, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination.

At the end of the consultation periods the trust will determine if it wishes to submit a change application for approval by the Regional Schools Commissioner. Should you wish to contribute to the consultation process please submit your comments in writing by post or email to:

Deputy Chief Operating Officer and Company Secretary  
Gosforth Group  
c/o North Gosforth Academy  
Dudley Lane  
Seaton Burn  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE13 6EJ

Email: [admin@northgosforth.co.uk](mailto:admin@northgosforth.co.uk)

Yours faithfully



**John Braithwaite MA ACIS ACG FCMI**  
**Deputy Chief Operating Officer and Company Secretary | Gosforth Group**

**Hugh Robinson CEO**

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