

PEASENHALL AND YOXFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOLS**CONSULTATION RESPONSE ANALYSIS**

The following quotes are representative of the range of views received. They are analysed against the Secretary of State's guidance for decision makers. Comments from letters and emails have been reported verbatim, and have not been corrected for spelling and grammar

Standards and School Improvement

"As a nearby nursery, we have fed...into Peasehall and Yoxford Primary School for over 10 years. I believe the reasons for this are parental concerns over the small size of the schools and recently the Ofsted reports...A slightly bigger school delivering high quality education will be more attractive to parents". ((PY-P11 – Pre-school Provider).

"While I am very sorry for my village to close the school, our children must have access to the best education available. I know this is not in a very small school – fine for the youngest children but not as they grow older". (PY – P13 – Parent & Governor).

"I would prefer a full merge in order to share resources, skills and also a slightly larger school, which I think is better for children socially... a larger number of pupils and a more diverse/skilled teaching staff would only benefit". (PY – P16 Parent)

"I think this is a sensible way forward to have a sustainable school offering a greater likelihood of attracting teachers so that the quality of teaching and learning improves for children in Peasehall, Yoxford and surrounding villages". (PY- P24 – MP)

"Regrettably, I agree with the above proposal. In an ideal world it would be preferable to retain both schools but this is obviously not feasible or realistic for a number of reasons; both financial and educational. The priority now should be to establish one merged school with a solid and permanent staffing structure and sufficient space, pupils and resources to move forward and to be a successful and thriving school which represents both villages and surrounding areas". (PY -P09 – Staff member).

"[Peasehall] School has provided consistently good to outstanding teaching and learning for its pupils in the recent past and, properly supported by strong leaders, could easily do so again...Rather than allow pupil numbers to dwindle, steps should be taken to render Peasehall Primary attractive again to the parents and carers who have removed their children, by reviving the successful initiatives that made the school a vibrant and viable establishment in the recent past." (PY – 007 – parent of former pupils).

"My child has grown very fond of his friends and the staff at Peasehall. , I feel my child has settled in well and has learnt a lot since attending school, he's in a routine that he likes and I feel this change will affect him dramatically." (PY – E01 – Parents)

"I feel that with the help from the Headteacher and governors Peasehall Primary School would improve and more parents would want to send their children there." ((PY – E01 – parent)

"We had 18 children here when we set up the Federation and we survived. My children went to Peasehall and had a successful education". (Comment at public consultation event).

"Lack of improvement has been due to lack of leadership and frequent staff changes. As a school that has performed well in the past this ought to be rectifiable by management." (PY- P28 – Parent)

"It seems unfair that Peasehall shouldn't be given another chance to remain viable". (PY P15 – parent/governor).

“Peasehall School has had a good deal of academic success in the past, the proportion of Peasehall children gaining degree places from Leiston High School was historically higher than most of the Leiston feeder schools” (Parish Council Letter)

Need for Places

“I understand Peasehall has been designated as a key workers village and as such would surely need a primary school for young children to attend”. (PY- 002)

“Although Peasehall has a bigger site – Yoxford has the benefit of being more centrally situated. There are plans for more houses closeby...” (PY – P22 – Staff member)

“it will be ironic if site is sold for development which would then bring more children in the area. There are housing developments in Saxmundham, Darsham and Leiston which will bring in more children”. (comments at Peasehall consultation event.)

“ (6) applications (for Reception) is actually a healthy number for this school and proves the school is still viable and popular with local families”. (PPY – P28 – Parent)

Impact on Community and Travel

“I feel that it is extremely sad for Peasehall to lose its asset of a primary school and this closure would be a severe blow to the village”. (PY002)

“The future of Peasehall school is of great concern to the village. It should remain open into the future to meet the educational needs of the area... There is a great deal of anger in the village on this issue and the failure (to protect the school and raise standards) cannot be brushed under the carpet.” (PY- 005 – Community)

“Peasehall Primary School is a vital part of the village, ensuring that it is multi-generational. For children of primary school age it is important to have educational provision within walking distance of their home and the welcoming, family atmosphere of the village school is the ideal familiar venue for embarking on their educational journey.” (PY- 007- parent of recent pupils)

“Parking restrictions in Yoxford mean no space to park cars to take children to and from school”. (PY – P26 – Parent)

“Can Yoxford as a village cope with this number of families in terms of parking, traffic etc?” (PY -002 – parent)

“(Yoxford) is a central point for parents and carers to take and collect the children from school”. (PY – P21 – Parent)

“I think the best option is to close Peasehall School and expand Yoxford School. The size of Yoxford School with a large hall and swimming pool and better access is a great advantage and more suitable. The staff and children from Peasehall are already at Yoxford and are working well”. (PY – P27 - Staff member)

“I am sure my children that attend the school will adjust well to more pupils attending...and trust everyone involved in this process to make the move as smoothly as possible”. (PY – P17 – Parent)

“In terms of the well being of the children, a good number of whom walk to school, their daily exercise will be curtailed by being bussed to Yoxford.” (Parish Council Letter)

Types of School and School Characteristics
<p><i>“If the proposal goes ahead, when will the school become an academy?”</i></p> <p><i>“Would it be simpler for everybody to tuck under the Consortium Multi Academy Trust?”</i></p> <p><i>“Will there be another meeting so we can the potential academy sponsors?”</i> (Comments at Peasehall and Yoxford consultation events.)</p> <p><i>“Yoxford has things that Peasehall doesn’t (swimming pool, gym apparatus, good access) and is more able to accommodate the number of pupils”. (PY- P17 parent)</i></p> <p><i>“I am not in favour of schools with hundreds of children (primary) but the proposal of 75to 105 I agree is ideal.” (PY – P16 Parent).</i></p>
Specific Age Provision
There were no comments from respondents in this section
SEN Provision
<p><i>“I have a child with Special Educational Needs; what provision will you have for children like mine? How many hours will your SENCo be working? 1 day a week is not a lot across 3 schools.” (Question and comment from Peasehall public meeting)</i></p> <p><i>“Disabled access (at Yoxford) is good - drop offs in village hall car park will help.” (PY-P01)</i></p>
Funding and Land
<p><i>“Where will the two extra classrooms go (at Yoxford)?”</i></p> <p><i>If the proposed plan goes ahead, what will happen to the Peasehall site?</i></p> <p><i>“Peasehall has a large playing field which could be developed...the ‘plantation in front of the school could be turned into a car park.” (PY – P15 Parent/Governor)</i></p> <p><i>“ (Peasehall is a generous site with huge potential for expansion and improvement. Accessibility issues have been noted but there are several potential avenues that could be pursued for the long term benefit of the school & the community...” PY-P28</i></p> <p><i>“My only concerns are losing the lovely grass area to portacabins, I hope they use the front of the school to expand class rooms.” (PY-P04)</i></p> <p><i>“I would want to see the facilities updated at the school (Yoxford), if there was a merge, and would want to be reassured that the green space at the school is maintained in size and diversity as much as possible”. PY-P16</i></p> <p><i>“The size of Yoxford School with a large hall and swimming pool and better access is a great advantage & more suitable.” (PY-P27)</i></p>

