

29th March 2022

**Spalding Special Schools Federation
(Being renamed 'Tulip Academy Spalding'
in September 2022)**

CONSULTATION REPORT



**The consultation window opened on Tuesday 1st March 2022
and closed on Sunday 27th March 2022**

The Proposal

The Priory School and The Garth School in Spalding are officially merging in September 2022 to become Tulip Academy Spalding. The Community Inclusive Trust (C.I.T), in collaboration with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), is commencing consultation on the proposal to permanently expand the capacity at Tulip Academy Spalding.

This proposal is to permanently expand the agreed number on roll at the school from 177, to a new capacity of 202. Pupils will continue to be based across either the Priory or Garth School sites. Additional teaching and resource space will not be required to enable the school to accommodate this increased capacity. However, the Priory School is part way through significant capital improvement works which will improve the condition and suitability of that site.

The proposed implementation date for the increased number on roll capacity would be 1st September 2022.

The Consultation

For this consultation C.I.T Academies direct mailed 95 stakeholders. This included all schools in the area, local councillors and MPs.

The Trust also sent letters directly to all staff, and parents and carers of pupils currently attending The Priory and The Garth schools.

The Trust also promoted the consultation, inviting people to attend a face-to-face event, via its websites and social media channels:

<https://citacademies.co.uk/spalding-schools-pupil-expansion-consultation/>

<https://www.spaldingspecialschools.co.uk/news.asp#439>



C.I.T asked the following question and welcomed comments:

Having read the proposal at the introduction of this survey, please indicate your view by ticking ONE of the boxes below.

I am in favour of the proposal

I am against the proposal

I am neither for, nor against, the proposal

Documentation used for consultation:

[Letter to stakeholders](#)

[Consultation Feedback Form](#)

Stakeholders were given the following opportunities to provide feedback:

By emailing: jacki.bartram@citacademies.co.uk

By calling: 03300 585520

By completing a quick online form:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=loM95ITEAki5q9duGED0BS3YiW0KMFOjsEDubAHonhUMkiIPMvhCUFZYVE1WTVZUREU4VEpBTkUwQy4u>

By post to either the school office: Jacki Bartram, The Priory School, Neville Avenue, Spalding, PE11 2EH, or to Jacki Bartram, C.I.T Academies, Poplar Farm School, Helmsley Road, Grantham, NG31 8XF.

The Feedback

Three people attended the face-to-face event. No questions were raised. All wished to submit their feedback via the online consultation feedback form.

The Trust received one query via email:

Q - Can I enquire as to the anticipated effects this proposal (assuming its accepted) will have on staffing please? Will it simply be an increase in numbers or are there wider reaching ideas about how the pupil increase will be accommodated?

A - Thank you for your enquiry. Due to local demand, pupil numbers at The Priory and Garth Schools have risen steadily over the past few years and 202 pupils are now educated across both sites. The DfE require schools to gain approval when numbers on roll exceed 10% of the number stated on the funding agreement. The funding agreement for Priory/Garth stipulates 177. This proposal essentially seeks agreement to maintain numbers at 202. There are no staffing increases or decreases required to maintain this number on roll. If not approved by the DfE, there could be a need to reduce numbers on roll, over time, to 177. This outcome could potentially create a staffing reduction requirement. Therefore, we are hoping for a positive response to the proposal. If you would like to talk through anything in more detail, please feel free to contact Daran Bland, Director of Governance and Operations, who is project managing the submission to the DfE.

In total, C.I.T received 7 responses. 6 in favour and 1 against. All were anonymous. Please see further detail below (detail has been removed for data protection purposes):

1. Please tell us in which capacity you are responding

[More Details](#)

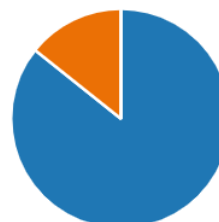
● Parent/Carer	1
● School Staff	1
● School Governor	0
● Employer/Business	0
● Other	5



4. Having read the proposal at the introduction of this survey, please indicate your view by ticking ONE of the boxes below.

[More Details](#)

● I am in favour of the proposal	6
● I am against the proposal	1
● I am neither for, nor against th...	0



Comments:

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	The LA are fully supportive of this proposal as it forms part of the LCC SEND Capital Programme to help meet the objectives of the Building Communities of Specialist Provision strategy. Not only will it support the aim of meeting a wider range of complex needs, but it will also provide additional capacity to ensure that local communities have improved access to the school provision that they need.
2	anonymous	Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council understand Lincolnshire Council have a duty to provide sufficient school places for the children living in Lincolnshire and this increase in capacity will work to meet this need.
3	anonymous	More school places are needed for children in Lincolnshire so LPCF support this proposal.