

TRUST IN LEARNING (ACADEMIES)

CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED SITE CLOSURE, TRANSFER OF PUPILS AND RELATED CHANGES TO THE ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AT FILTON AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. If this proposal goes ahead how will my child be supported in the transfer to Lockleaze Road?

Our major priority will be to ensure that the children are fully supported in the transfer. The school will work with all parents to understand and overcome any concerns you may have, and we will look to ensure that your child's learning is not affected by the transfer. We have already had the experience of doing this successfully with children who have moved to Lockleaze Road from Orchard Campus in the past.

2. This proposal would mean that my child will have further to travel from their home to the school?

Yes. Unfortunately this will be the case for some. However, Orchard Campus just like other sites has families from a wide area many of which will be closer to Lockleaze Road than Orchard Campus. Whilst some will have further to travel, some will not.

3. Will this move mean that my child's learning will be affected?

No. Filton Avenue Primary School is one school currently operating on two sites – Lockleaze Road and Orchard Campus – both sites and year groups follow the same curriculum and learning programmes. There will be no disruption in your child's learning if the proposal goes ahead.

4. Will there be enough room for all of the classes currently on the Orchard Campus site to transfer to Lockleaze Road?

Yes. There are more than enough spare classrooms available to accommodate those transferring. There are also larger playground spaces and facilities at Lockleaze Road.

5. If the proposal goes ahead how is my child going to be supported in moving from a small provision to the much larger Lockleaze Road site?

Yes, this is very true and school leaders are aware that this be a concern of parents and children. Leaders, class teachers and other staff will be involved in supporting the move and making it as smooth as possible. Before the move in September, we will provide the opportunities for children and parents to visit Lockleaze Road and we will also look to maintain classes/friendship groups wherever possible.

6. Has the Trust looked into any other possibilities other than closing Orchard Campus?

Yes. It should be noted that we are very proud of establishing Orchard Campus nearly ten years ago and if the numbers were there, we would not be looking to close this part of Filton Avenue Primary School. In coming to our proposal, we looked at five different options prior to the Board of Directors of the Trust coming to the decision that the only viable option was to make a complete transfer of pupils.

7. There is a lot of house building going on in North Bristol. Has this been considered when making this proposal?

Yes. The first and most important thing for us to do was to get the facts right in terms of possible primary numbers going forwards. This proposal is based upon the latest figures provided by Bristol City Council. These show that there is no likelihood of Reception intake numbers rising until at least 2026/27 and even then, it is not a significant increase.

8. What will happen to the Orchard Campus?

The Trust is talking to the Local Authority about the potential to use the accommodation for Orchard School Bristol. Whilst primary numbers are going down in Bristol the opposite is the case for secondary pupils. It is important to make use of the facility, and this seems to be a good way of doing that for the community that both Filton Avenue Primary and Orchard School Bristol serve.