

### **Schools Estates Engagement Feedback Template**

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<b>Session / School</b>	Colvestone Primary School - Parents	
<b>Date</b>	Monday 24th April	
<b>Est. number of attendees</b>	110 (including presenters)	
<b>Question asked</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Additional comments</b>
What would happen to Colvestone's historic debt if the school was to close?	The debt falls within the jurisdiction of the LA. Some of the deficit has been successfully addressed.	
Why is Hackney focused on community schools rather than faith schools?	Hackney is not focused on community schools alone. There is dialogue with the Diocese of the Church of England and Catholicism, as there is a process of consultation required. There are a number of schools that could be in scope. Announcements will be made in the not too distant future.	
What would happen to the Colvestone building if the school is closed?	There will be an asset review process. No decision has been made as yet. A range of evaluations will be made at Cabinet meetings, which are public. The needs of the community will be considered.	
Is the new road going here?	This is still ongoing. There is confirmation of funding for the change of infrastructure of the street and there will be discussion with ward members.	In terms of air pollution figures, the baseline is 40% and the local number is 23%, at Princess May one playground is 23% and

		the other is 32%, numbers have gone down but this process is ongoing.
Why has health not been factored in? We would like it added to the list for consideration.	It will be part of the Cabinet deliberation.	
What is the deadline for sharing information ahead of Cabinet on 22 May?	If shared by the end of this week it will get in, if it is shared next week we will try. The intention is to include as much information as possible.	
What is the criteria?	We are happy to have more meetings around the drivers and timeline of decision making. Although the meeting is today, parents have had information before and had the opportunity to submit questions beforehand. We can take away that parents would prefer to meet and ask questions afterwards.	
The timeline does not give enough time.	We want to make sure that the process is as comprehensive as possible. We will share the criteria with all parents.	
This time last year parents of years 3 and 4 sat with *** with real concerns about this. *** told us in no uncertain terms that the school was not at risk of closure. What has changed the process?	The census date landed in December and showed projections for the next few years for Hackney schools and we looked at admission numbers for September. It has become a school in scope for a process.	

<p>I have seen birth rates that have increased with 400-500 nursery places needed. It is confusing why a year ago we were told the opposite of what we are told today. What happens if there are 70 families told that the children have to go to Princess May and we don't want to go.</p>	<p>The LA has a responsibility to find an education place for all children which includes children with additional needs. It is incumbent on sufficient use of resources. Unless we go through this process, next year it could be 9-10 schools. Numbers have continued to incline. Our LAs have been through this - namely Camden, Islington and Newham.</p>	
<p>There is a problem, in terms of the merger of Colvestone and Princess May as they are both very different, very few parents want their children to go there. What are you going to do?</p>	<p>We have to work with families to find a solution. If the numbers do not make a school viable, we have to do something different.</p>	<p>I wouldn't send my child to a school that was going to close, it is being sabotaged in terms of September's intake.</p> <p>We specifically came to Colvestone to find a small school and this involved travelling from Canning Town to Newham, this school is really friendly and inclusive and my children love it here. Everyone knows each other and says hello to each other.</p>
<p>Have you thought about proposed closure and the numbers and impact on schools that will have to take the additional children?</p>	<p>Yes, there have been evaluations and modelling.</p>	<p>In your process of evaluation, please consider that some children won't be able to learn in a big school and primary school is their foundation.</p> <p>This is real life and facts, not just emotion.</p>

<p>Do you now understand that it is not numbers versus emotion?</p>	<p>It is much broader than that, but future viability is about numbers.</p>	
<p>Do you accept that there are numbers you haven't considered? Our children are not just numbers. There are factors buried under the factors. The numbers mean nothing if they don't work for us. When you say you hear the passion you're not hearing a parent talking about their child.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	

<p>We don't understand the timeline, e.g. Brexit and pandemic - numbers show that in 2019 massively decreased, pandemic had a huge effect, lots of parents moved out, what will change because numbers will change, there are big decisions that could go catastrophically wrong. Pupil numbers will increase with residents coming to live in building projects. It seems really short sighted.</p>	<p>We are restructuring to ensure that every Hackney child has as good an experience as possible, and the school has to still be viable. Other schools will come into scope. You're asking why go into a process? Because it has reached a threshold for strategy and criteria. There are so many compelling arguments. It is not just about numbers, much broader. That is why these sessions are important. Other areas did not go through a process like this - Hackney prides itself on child and parent voices to capture views. At Cabinet in May, it is about permission sought to go to the next stage, which is still informal. This is the beginning of the process. It is due to the census data and efficient use of resources which equals 22% empty seats and this is not efficient use of resources.</p>	
<p>This is about a sea of lost revenue rather than viability figures. We have seen what might be perceived as losses but not about whether the school is viable. There is an inference that they are both the same in terms of loss of income and not being viable, which is not the case. I would like to see the financial viability</p>	<p>We can make this information available to the Full Governing Body <b>[action]</b> if they haven't received it already. They have made a surplus but it would not have been achieved without the support by the LA whilst it has made good inroads.</p>	<p>This school is unique, and this is a one off opportunity to save the street. You can't build a beautiful street outside and close the school beside it. We need support. Take us off the list. We need a chance to see what the reception roll is in a two or three years time, first.</p> <p>I have heard stories of children thriving in this small school environment that it is such a wonderful school. Hackney should be fighting for this school.</p>

<p>report, rather than an obsession with lost revenue.</p>		<p>***: We cannot close faith, despite free schools or academies. Maintained schools are the only ones we have scope for. We have written to the government and asked for us to be able to consider all schools in scope, and also we requested for pausing of free schools being set up. Any schools that house Hackney children are all our children. We don't need free schools in the borough and it is frustrating.</p>
<p>Why does LA allocate non faith children to religious schools?</p>	<p>The procedure is to offer the nearest school to home, but they don't have to accept it.</p>	
<p>Why not change the process?</p>	<p>It's about parental choice.</p>	
<p>Why doesn't Princess May come to Colveston instead?</p>	<p>There isn't enough capacity in the building.</p>	
<p>Can the school's own financial projections in terms of deficit be submitted to the Cabinet for the next four to five years to come?</p>	<p>Yes that can.</p>	<p>This is a great experience for children to come here. *** left here four years ago for secondary school and it was a great place to come to as a primary school. The community is like a big family. Ridley Road market is such a great mix of diversity. There is academic success and records of children when they go on from here to secondary school and university.</p>

		<p>The teachers are really dedicated, the students are thriving and this includes SEND kids. In Colvestone is it different from other schools? Schools like this need to be supported instead of closing it.</p>
<b>Additional event notes / comments:</b>		