



Dear Kenwood Stakeholder,

Consultation to distinguish our Sheffield & Barnsley provisions

Until 13th December 2024 we are openly consulting with all stakeholders on a proposal to distinguish our Sheffield and Barnsley provisions to create two separate schools. As our offer continues to develop and more families look to benefit from Kenwood's offer in both areas we think now is the time to consider whether the Sheffield and Barnsley campuses would be better as two separate schools, focussed on the needs of their areas and working closely in partnership with the respective local authorities. Now we would really like to hear views.

About Kenwood Academy

Kenwood's offer is unique in the region and the demand for places continues to grow. This resulted in developing the offer in Barnsley, as well as the ongoing developments in Sheffield that have seen young people accessing the offer at Enterprise Works. We are proud of the curriculum we offer and the way that we have retained what is unique and successful as it has grown and developed over time.

What might it mean for individual students?

This will not affect the provision on offer to any of our students. It is purely about the legal structure of the institution. The funding, staffing, sites and curriculum offer will remain absolutely as it is now.

We are consulting on this change because:

Having a provision in Sheffield and Barnsley creates some issues for the administration across the two local authorities – especially how local authorities are funded for places - and as we continue to see growth and development, it makes sense to consider having the two provisions separated so that they can focus on the local needs and stakeholders long into the future. Right now, Sheffield City Council is classified by the Government as the "home" local authority for the West Riding campus, and we believe this should be Barnsley Council instead.

We want to make sure that stakeholders who wish to, have had chance to think through what this would mean. By going ahead with this consultation process, we will be able to reflect on stakeholders' views and questions as we continue to develop the offer and the curriculum in line with what our young people and families need and want.

Learning together, to be the best we can be.

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Find out more & tell us what you think

We are keen to answer any questions and find out people's views. You can:

- Email us questions or comments to consultation@nexusmat.org
- Drop off a written response at school

What happens next?

The consultation will run until 13th December 2024. At the end of the period, we will gather all responses and reflect on what you think. If there remains a strong case to progress the separation of the West Riding campus into its own school, we would then look to submit a proposal to the Department for Education, whose officers will decide whether or not to approve the request, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education.

Further updates will be forthcoming and the consultation website above will be kept up to date as we go along.

If the proposal is approved then the implementation period would include work with stakeholders well in advance of any formal change – that work would then define what a timeline and implementation date would look like that works for all.

We hope you understand the proposal, the reasons behind it, and trust that this is a genuine consultation – your views are important to us and they will help shape what happens next.

Yours faithfully

Joel Hardwick
Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Nexus Multi Academy Trust