

CROSSHILL SCHOOL
RELOCATION CONSULTATION MEETING
THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 3.00PM
MINUTES

Present at the Meeting:

	Mrs Diane Atkinson	Trust Leader	DAT
	Mrs Lidia Gardner	Headteacher of Crosshill	LGA
	Ms Nicola Chester	Trust Finance & Operations Leader	NCH
	Ms Julie Jackson	Statutory SEND Assessment Team Manager	JJA
	Mrs Lynn Dickinson	Clerk	LDI

Also present:

Members of Crosshill and BCHS staff, parents, governors and other interested community members, dialled in via Zoom

1.0 Welcome	
Firstly, Mrs Atkinson welcomed everyone to the meeting to give information on the development of the former Sunnyhurst Centre as the new base for Crosshill School. A general overview on how to ask questions etc was provided for those not familiar with using Zoom.	
2.0 Briefing & Presentation	
Presented by:	DAT
Discussion:	<p>Slide-1</p> <p>DAT presented a PowerPoint and started by explaining the purpose of the relocation consultation meeting. She provided a brief overview of the Champion Education Trust, in that it was small and like a family, with currently two schools in Blackburn and one school in Blackpool. The Trust wish to develop truly inspiring education, leadership, Teaching & Learning.</p> <p>Slide-2</p> <p>DAT explained the ethos of the Trust in more details, together the family setting to drive supportive, aspirational behaviours, providing the very best for the students and the communities which the schools serve; developing each and every child to flourish and succeed, using passion, drive and enthusiasm.</p> <p>Slide-3</p> <p>The Trust is dedicated to providing and supporting all of our young people, championing the children and their families with a positive embrace of education, breaking down barriers to learning.</p> <p>Slide-4</p> <p>The drive to move to the former Sunnyhurst site is to provide our students with an improved sense of personal value and belonging, to ultimately, be the best that they can possibly be. We believe that this new building will be that opportunity.</p> <p>Slide-5</p> <p>Crosshill School has become more and more successful, year on year with a 50% increase since 2013. We are working in close partnership with the Local Authority to provide bespoke accommodation and facilities for our students. The site is a really delightful site, with great potential for the future.</p>

We are hoping to develop the site in two phases:

- Phase 1 – Main house refurbishment, along with the grounds, ready for a September 2021 start
- Phase 2 – Development for a bespoke 8th Form Centre, together with additional learning and therapy spaces, ready for September 2022

Slide-6

Mrs Gardner introduced herself, Headteacher at Crosshill School, and explained that the school will be an 11 to 18 provision school, supporting students with moderate learning difficulties, where each of them have an Education Health & Care Plan (EHC), with some additional physical, visual or impaired difficulties.

Slide-7

The site is located in Darwen, and as previously stated, known as the Sunnyhurst Centre, previously occupied by the PRU.

Slide-8

This slide shows the street view of the building when it was last occupied. The main building is part of Phase 1 and the smaller two buildings are part of Phase 2.

Slide-9

The diagram on the slide shows the main building in Red, which indicated blocks A, C & D for Phase 1. It also shows the other buildings in Blue, which indicated area B, along with other areas.

Slide-10

The aim is to have Phase 1 ready on time, as planned for a September 2021 start. All relevant spaces are listed on the enclosed document (PowerPoint Slides).

Slide-11

It is hoped that Phase 2 will be ready for a September 2022 start, providing more classrooms and opportunities to diversify. It is anticipated that the 6th Form Centre will develop and support transition from KS4 to KS5; hopefully developing therapy provision.

Slide-12

By working together with the LA, it will support the opportunity to expand the school, bringing both KS3/4 areas and KS5 back onto one campus. The growth will help utilise additional specialist provision, using 4 dedicated strands of learning. Having a larger site will enable more opportunities for the students, adding improved flexible ways of learning. Additional space will be available for specialist provision and more social and enrichments opportunities for the whole school community.

Slide-13

Mrs Gardner explained that it is planned for a transition to start during the Summer term 2021, and over the Summer holidays. There is even a contingency plan in place, should the current Covid19 lockdown cause additional issues. She explained that parents and students will receive regular updates on progress, including photographs, every couple of weeks, so that they can monitor the progress being made.

Slide-14

Mrs Atkinson explained that the meeting consisted of a professional panel of persons who are best placed to answer any questions or queries they may have. Staff included Mrs Gardner, Ms Chester, Ms Jackson, and herself, Mrs Atkinson.

Mrs Gardner asked if anyone would like to ask further questions, based on the information already provided.

Mrs Atkinson then confirmed that during Phase 2, the 6th Form Centre would have their own entrance and exit, independent of the main school. She was concerned that local residents might be a little concerned as to possible traffic congestion issues around the locality.

Question:

Mr Humphrys asked how the current road traffic might be affected with the new school opening and student transport.

Answer:

Mrs Atkinson explained that the traffic would be monitored and confirmed that students would continue to be brought into school on mini buses, just like they are now. There are currently about 10-mini buses used and it is much less, then each child being dropped off personally. Mrs Atkinson confirmed that the Trust would continue to liaise closely with the LA about any traffic concerns that may arise.

Question:

Mr Humphrys said that he knew that when the Sunnyside Centre had been in previous use, they had had a lift, so that all floors could be accessed.

Answer:

Ms Chester confirmed that the intention had always been to fit a suitable lift, fit for purpose, so that students and staff could utilise all areas of the building and that this had now been included in Phase 1.

Question:

Ms Whalley asked if the Post-16 Provision was to stay where it is currently, until September 2022, when Phase 2 is completed.

Answer:

Mrs Gardner confirmed that no this was not the case, both school sites would move into the new premises for September 2021. As Phase 2 come online, the 6th Form Provision would then move across to the new space, in September 2022.

Question:

The question was asked if the school uniform would be changing.

Answer:

Mrs Gardner confirmed that the uniform would be staying the same as it is currently, with the Crosshill School logo on the blazer breast pocket.

Mrs Atkinson asked everyone attending, if they had any other questions or concerns to raise.

There were no other questions or concerns raised.

	<p>Mrs Atkinson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 3.29pm</p>
Resolved:	All questions asked had been answered correctly, with no additional questions or queries outstanding.

The meeting concluded at 3.29pm.