



**We would like
to know what
you think about
a new school
opportunity we
are proposing for
Wisbech.**

A new Free School for Wisbech is being proposed and we want to know the views of the local community. It is proposed that the school will open on 1 September 2016. It will be housed in purpose-built accommodation on the Thomas Clarkson site and will be run by the Brooke Weston Trust in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council. The formation of a Free School will bring much needed additional Government investment into Wisbech, which will increase the number of primary places and lead to a greater choice for parents.



WHAT IS A FREE SCHOOL?

Free Schools are designed to give parents increased options when choosing where and how their child is educated. The new Wisbech Free School will be publicly funded directly by the Department of Education and will be an independent state primary school. There will be no charge to attend and it will cater for students of all abilities. The structure of a Free School is the same as an Academy, and the proposed new school will operate to the same high standards as other Brooke Weston Trust Schools.

The Free School will benefit from the same freedoms and flexibilities as an Academy, including

- the ability to set their own staff pay and conditions
- freedom from following the National Curriculum
- greater budgetary control
- freedom to change the length of terms and school days
- freedom from local authority direct control

The Free School will work in close partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council, Fenland District Council, local schools, other education providers and community agencies.





WHY DOES WISBECH NEED A FREE SCHOOL?

With new housing developments and more people moving into Wisbech increasing pressure is being put on the existing primary schools. Both Cambridgeshire County Council and Fenland District Council support the generation of a Primary Free School as it will bring more Government investment in the area and increase the choices available in the town.

Most of the existing primary classes are already full at Reception and Year 1 levels and the County Council feels it is unlikely to be able to extend the existing schools in order to meet the growing demand present and projected demand. Therefore establishing a Free School funded by central Government is a logical and viable alternative providing more places and a new approach to primary education.

WHAT IS THE BROOKE WESTON TRUST?

The Brooke Weston Trust (www.brookewestontrust.org) is a well-established educational organisation operating seven schools in Northamptonshire and two in Wisbech. These are a mix of secondary, all-through and primary schools; many of which have undergone successful recent Ofsted inspections and none of which have received an unsatisfactory grading.

The Trust already operates one Free School in Corby which was graded Outstanding in all areas by OFSTED in May 2014 (www.corbytechnicalschool.org). Crucially the Trust already has experience of the educational needs and aspirations of Wisbech, through its operation of the rapidly improving Thomas Clarkson Academy and Peckover Primary Academy. The Trust's vision is that a Primary Free School in the town would offer a rigorous academic curriculum coupled with a creative and developmental approach to learning.

The new primary school will benefit from the Trust's experience in creating and managing schools that are popular with parents, have very good standards of student behaviour and achievement and that are supported by high quality professionals from across our family of schools.

The Brooke Weston Trust will work closely with Cambridgeshire County Council to create a new school with excellent leadership and outstanding teaching to ensure parents that all its students receive the best possible education and care. The admission policy for the Free School will be in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

WHAT WILL THE NEW SCHOOL BE LIKE?

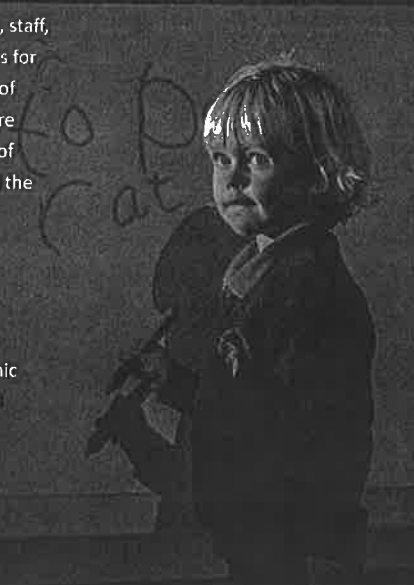
The Primary Free School will provide a creative and developmental curriculum underpinned by a strong academic provision that is focused on literacy and numeracy. The Brooke Weston Trust has over 25 years' experience of creating schools where students are safe, happy, behave well and achieve their individual potential. The new school is likely to have an intake of 60 Reception students in September 2016 and will increase to a total of 420 students from Reception to Year 6.

The Trust would support the Principal Designate, staff, students and their families to lay the foundations for a successful, caring school with a strong culture of achievement. It will be a school where lessons are exciting and the school will promote high levels of achievement and fun across subjects, topics and the entire primary national curriculum.

The Trust's vision is to:

- Allow all children to succeed through high quality pastoral care ensuring that academic and other activities are delivered at a level suitable for each child

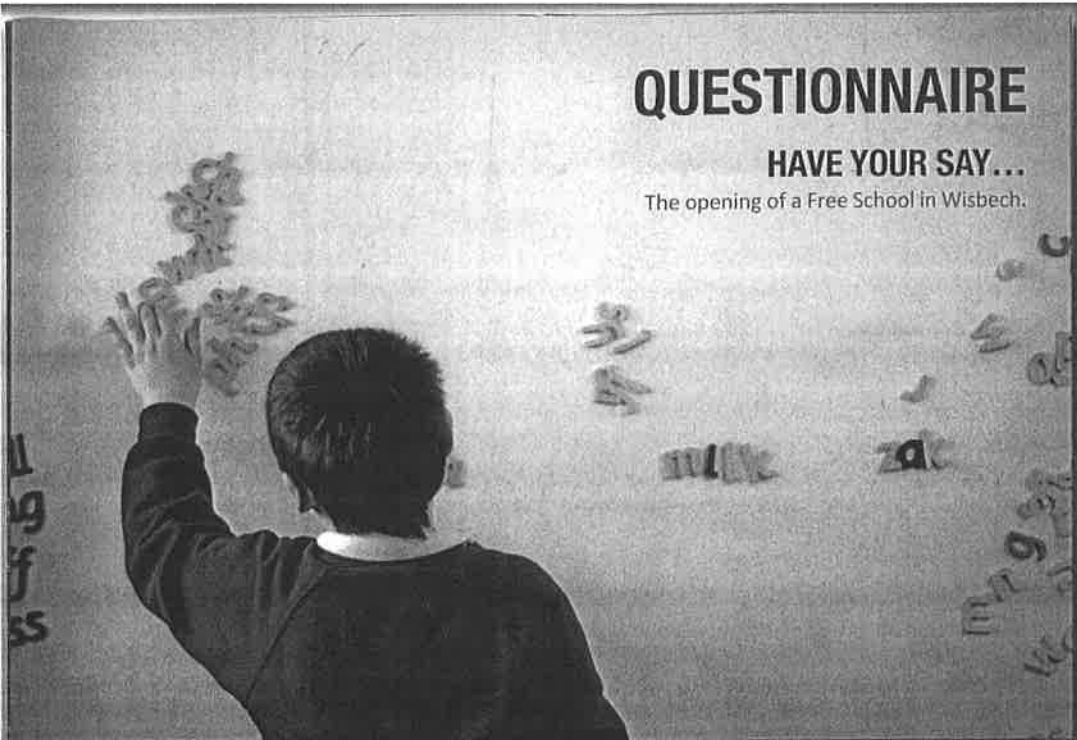
- Provide a personalised curriculum rich in opportunities to explore all aspects of learning
- Deliver the core subjects of English and maths through a cross curricula approach allowing children to explore these subjects in meaningful ways
- Use the National Curriculum and other means to plan challenging, creative and 'fun' lessons which are well balanced and delivered at appropriate levels
- Put outstanding teaching and learning at the heart of everything we do so that no student is ever left behind.
- Use student data in a purposeful way so that parents and children know what stage they are at and what they need to do to move on.
- Recruit only high quality staff, whose professional development and career prospects will be assured and supported by the Brooke Weston Trust's Teaching School.



QUESTIONNAIRE

HAVE YOUR SAY...

The opening of a Free School in Wisbech.



We are very interested in hearing your views. Please use the space below to tell us what you think. This is not a referendum, but a chance to make your views known so that we can take them into account as we develop the detail of the school. All questionnaires and surveys must be received by **August 31st, 2014**.



You can also fill this survey out online at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/26BM75X>



1. Do you support the proposal to open a new Primary school in Wisbech to increase parental choice?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Don't know ☐

Please give us your reasons:

2. Do you support the core principles of Brooke Weston Trust schools; ie -high expectations, academic rigour and a child-focused approach?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Don't know ☐

Please give us your reasons:

3. Do you support the school's ethos for a creative and developmental curriculum to foster confidence in all children thereby establishing a strong culture of achievement?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Don't know ☐

Please give us your reasons:

4. Do you support our proposal to establish a school with a focus on high quality pastoral support?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Don't know ☐

Please give us your reasons:

5. Other than strengthening students' English language skills, are there any particular subject areas you think ought to be taught at Wisbech Primary Free School?

6. If you have a child who will be eligible for admission to Wisbech Primary Free School would you apply for a place? (If yes, this does not commit you should you wish to apply to different school)

Yes ☐

No ☐

Name of child

Current school

Date of birth

Email address

School year

Telephone no.

Home address

Return to: Brooke Weston Trust, Coomb Road, Great Oakley, Corby, Northants, NN18 8LA