

Closure of Easterfield School Pupil Engagement

Easterfield School has been temporarily closed since 2021. The Council is proposing to close Easterfield School and merge it with your school. This means that you may have slightly more children attending your school and your class. One of the things we have to do when we are thinking about closing a school, is to talk to all of the children who will be affected by this change to find out what they think about it. We have already asked all the parents/careers what they think, but this is your chance to tell us about it.

1. What do you think might be some advantages of a larger school?

More help/support for pupils, opportunities to have more friends, bigger events like community cafes etc and more teachers in the school so don't have the same teacher all the time, more toilets, accessible for disabled, huge gym hall for two classes at once whilst classes eat lunch in canteen at the same time.

2. What do you think might be some disadvantages of a larger school?

Easier for friends to fall out, lots of people that annoy you, more cramped playgrounds and classrooms, waiting times for lunch lines, behaviour might be worse, less space for group work, not enough equipment for everyone, tricky to find your way about when you are new, noisier with more people – lunchtimes are noisy with 400 kids compared to 40 kids talking.

3. What do you think might be some advantages of a smaller school?

Less wait times for help and lunch, more space and freedom for pupils, less food waste, quieter, more of a small family rather than classmates, more space for working with groups, in the fields, more support, smaller classes so all pupils really get to know each other, chance to do more fun things as small numbers.

4. What do you think might be some disadvantages of a smaller school?

Less options or friendships, less resources available, easier for school procedures (fire drills), fundraising would be trickier, buildings for small schools are normally older than own school, smaller school so smaller amount of spaces to be in, scary to go to the academy after leaving a small school compared to a bigger school and will have less friends going into the academy, no astro at small schools. Small and old schools cost more like old houses compared to new houses to heat.

5. Is there anything that worries you about merging Easterfield School with your school?

Any addition of behavioural problems, perhaps heighten issues for certain pupils (anxiety). New people they don't know. Bullies.

6. Is there anything that excites you about merging Easterfield School with your school?

Allowing a good learning environment for the pupils, more people to share their school experience with, more friendships can be built. Lots of friends. Perhaps I will meet my best friend.

7. Is there anything that you think the Council should consider prior to making the final decision on this proposal?

How class sizes can impact learning, influence of having less resources due to number of pupils. Think the council need to talk to pupils and families that will be affected. We have space at TPS and you could extend it also. Not all kids like big schools and busy places. It might be a long time on a bus to get here?