



To: All Hessle High School and Penshurst Primary School Parents/Carers and other key stakeholders

17th September 2026

Consultation: Proposed de-amalgamation of Hessle High School and Penshurst Primary School

We are seeking your views on a proposal to separate Hessle High School and Penshurst Primary School into two standalone schools within The Consortium Academy Trust.

The consultation will run for four weeks between and close on Friday 16 October 2026. No final decision will be made until the consultation has closed and all feedback has been carefully considered.

What is being proposed?

Hessle High School and Penshurst Primary School currently operate as one all-through school across two separate sites. The Trust is proposing that, from April 2027, they become two separate schools, subject to consultation and approval by the Department for Education.

Both schools would remain part of The Consortium Academy Trust and would continue to work together where this benefits children, families and the wider community.

Why is this being proposed?

We believe that separate school status would help each school focus more clearly on the needs of its learners, staff and community.

The proposal would allow each school to:

- **Provide a more tailored educational experience** by focusing on the distinct developmental needs of primary and secondary-aged learners.
- **Prioritise investment in facilities and resources** that best support the needs of children and young people on each site.
- **Strengthen community engagement** through more targeted work with families and local stakeholders.
- **Provide focused leadership and accountability**, enabling leaders to concentrate on the opportunities and challenges specific to their phase of education.
- **Develop a distinct identity and culture** that reflects the age, needs and aspirations of learners at each school.
- **Make decisions more effectively about resources and school improvement priorities**, ensuring investment is directed where it will have the greatest impact.

The Trust believes these changes would support both schools in continuing to improve outcomes and experiences for learners while retaining the benefits of being part of the same Trust.

What would this mean?

If the proposal proceeds, Hessle High School and Penshurst Primary School would each become a separate school and continue with their own leadership arrangements, improvement plans, governance reporting and accountability structures.

Children and young people would remain on their current sites. The proposal does not involve relocating or moving learners between schools.

Both schools would continue to benefit from being part of The Consortium Academy Trust and would continue to work collaboratively where this supports learners and families.

Admissions and transition

There would be no change to Hessle High School's admissions arrangements for 2026/27 or 2027/28, as these have already been determined.

Children currently attending Penshurst Primary School in Year 6 would continue to transfer to Hessle High School in September 2027 without the need to apply through the local authority, as is currently the case.

The Trust intends to undertake a separate consultation in November 2026 regarding Hessle High School's admissions arrangements from September 2028, including its Published Admission Number (PAN) and a proposal for Penshurst Primary School to be formally recognised as a feeder school.

These proposed changes are intended to maintain a clear route from Penshurst Primary School to Hessle High School for families who choose that pathway. Local authority analysis shows that, if a higher PAN at Hessle High School and feeder school status for Penshurst Primary School had been in place since 2020, every Penshurst child who applied for a place at Hessle High School would have been offered one.

Have your say

We welcome your views on the proposal. Please send comments or questions by email to communications@consortiumtrust.co.uk by Friday 16 October 2026.

All responses will be considered before any final decision is made. We will engage separately with staff who are affected by the proposed change and ensure that our consultation obligations are fully discharged prior to any final decision being reached. If the Trust decides to proceed, a business case will be submitted to the Department for Education for approval.

Yours sincerely

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Hessle High School & Sixth Form College

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