

**Questions/Responses from Parental Meeting re: Trust School Consultation**  
**Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at Sudbury Upper School**

**Present:** 6 Parents  
Governor, David Forrest (Headteacher)  
Ann Pizzey (Chair of Governors)  
UNISON Representative

- Q. Would admissions still be part of SCC system?  
A. School pays SCC and could continue; we would only move away if there were any advantages in doing so.
- Q. Both schools will keep their own individuality?  
A. Yes – own governing bodies. Some governors will join the Trust and Trust nominees on governing body.
- Q. What will partners look for as a return?  
A. Charities get influence over people to help them – money raising and activities.  
Hospice – want to get into community and find helpers  
Will help us to extend community spirit amongst students.
- Q. How will it affect the Headteacher?  
A. Biggest change for leadership and governors in partnership working. Administration work e.g. school becomes employer; Pay – could stay with local authority or out-source it.
- Q. Does it give you more autonomy?  
A. Yes. The Trust takes ownership of the building and grounds. The local authority supports the idea and there is pressure on local authorities from the government for Building Schools for the Future. (BSF)
- Q. What would happen if only one school went for it?  
A. Still possible, but unlikely.
- Q. Buildings – what responsibilities will local authority have?  
A. The Local Authority would do large repairs – as now – and we could still buy into County Insurance.
- Q. Why transfer buildings and grounds to the Trust?  
A. No logic – just a government decision; it is the way Trust Schools are set up.
- Q. If Trust hands back building, school might have to pay dilapidation liability?  
A. This happens in V.C. schools  
➤ ACTION: clarify who is responsible for what in building repairs.
- Q. Partners – need something more heavyweight based on the town e.g. Delphi  
A. We have tried Mel Aviation, BT, BBC
- Q. What can partners do for us?  
A. Match partners to competencies e.g. charities (people), U.C.S. (learning), BT/BBC (information), business (situations)
- Q. Is there a finite number of partners?  
A. No – but other trusts indicate that 5 is enough.
- Q. Does the Trust employ staff?  
A. No – the governing body does, but can't change the terms and conditions of employment.

- Q. Can Trust enhance terms and conditions?  
A. It can, if it has money therefore fund-raising is important.  
➤ ACTION: Talk to Joint Committee
- Q. Can second consultation be **posted**?  
A. Possible. Email/Website is free; postage is a huge expense.
- Q. Can you involve and interest students?  
A. Student council know about it.