

King's Norton Boys' School – Summary of Consultation Responses

Summary table:					
Total number of responses:					
15					
Number in favour/against/neutral:					
In favour		Against		Neutral	
0		14		1	
Method of response:					
BeHeard:			Letter		
14			1		
Type of respondent:					
Parent	Parent & local resident	Former pupil and future parent	Parent, local resident and former pupil	Local resident	Member of Parliament
6	4	1	1	2	1

Most Frequent Concerns/Comments Raised	Occurrence within 15 responses
Would have like my child to have the option to stay on at the sixth form.	7/15
Understand the financial position that has led to decision	4 /15
Due to recent closure of neighbouring sixth forms this will further limit choice.	3/15
Parent may not have chosen the school if the situation regarding the closure of the sixth form had been known.	3/15
Good Head Boy Team	2/15
Prefer sixth forms to colleges	2/15
Loss of sixth form will cause staff to seek employment elsewhere	2/15

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPU-4

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-07 16:25:50**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

While I understand the difficulty of the financial position, and so in this respect understand the need for this proposal, I am still not in support of the proposal. My son is currently in Year 9 and it would definitely be my preference to have the option for him to attend KNBS sixth form.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPV-5

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-08 09:45:11**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Local Resident, Other, please specify

other, please specify:

Admissions tutor and senior lecturer at Coventry University

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

My son has benefited from the KNBS sixth form and is progressing very well academically taught by committed staff. The sixth form students provide an excellent example to the 11-16 year olds in the school in terms of what they can aspire to achieve and in terms of good conduct. There is an excellent Head Boy team.

Losing the 16-18 year olds from the school and losing the opportunity to stay for sixth form will have a detrimental effect on the aspirations of younger students. It will also put off applicants for year 7 entry places when they and their parents are comparing secondary school provision in South Birmingham. The school needs a healthy intake including young people who aim to go on to University as well as those who want to stay in a familiar environment to do A levels. Loss of the sixth form is already causing well qualified staff in shortage subjects to seek employment elsewhere. Staff recruitment is a significant issue.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPK-T

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-09 11:53:57**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Other, please specify

other, please specify:

Former pupil and parent of children who will need the resource in years to come.

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Further education from the South Birmingham area is being lost. Bournville Senior School has recently closed their 6th form facility and to lose another would further reduce the choice to students.

Having said that the facility has to be viable. If it is running at a loss then measures need to be looked at to assist so that when the school population in Birmingham increases, as it is currently, there is enough places for students to find further education.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPP-Y

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-16 16:30:25**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Would wish to see continued education including 6th form for my boys. Whilst I understand the financial restrictions, I am disappointed that my sons will potentially not be able to sit their A levels at the school we selected for lots of good reasons. It is important for younger children in the school to look up to their peers to see how well they can do academically.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPZ-9

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-19 08:42:21**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Local Resident, Other, please specify

other, please specify:

I am a parent, local resident and ex - pupil.

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Dear Sirs,

I am both a parent of my son who is in year 7 an ex pupil of the school and local resident.

I wish to object to the plans for the following reasons.

1. When choosing a school for my son in 2015, the objective was to find one which would provide academic opportunities until age 18, and not have the same pressures to achieve as a foundation school. KNBS was in the perfect position. However I now feel misled by the school as we can no longer achieve that aim. We would not have chosen the school if we had been informed accurately of this problem.
2. I fail to understand why every effort is not being made to work alongside Kings Norton Girls School to provide a joint sixth form offering. Where is this in the research and proposal, and why are the two schools not working together to provide a joint proposal?
3. Kings Norton Girls School has a very successful sixth form. Why is it that similar size schools within the same catchment area and pupil abilities can have such differing fortunes. Why has the sixth form at KNBS not been successful in comparison?
4. What efforts have been made to ensure the sixth form at KNBS is attractive to existing pupils. Why is it that small numbers only want to stay on. Is this because they know the school is looking to close the sixth form and have been discouraged to stay alongside encouraged to look for other options.
5. What other options are there for sixth form education locally if as a parent you prefer to have a school and non college environment.
6. As an ex pupil from 72-79 at the school, I recognise that the school has a strong academic and sporting history. My first question is why has that academic history been allowed to falter in this way? I think the school should be looking in the opposite way and bringing back the strong aims/objectives of academic success and not allowing itself to be beaten in this way. I am looking for it to show better objectives with a plan on how to attract more pupils and not go down the route of closure.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HP2-1

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-23 10:26:32**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Local Resident

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Concerned over the loss of 6th form provision in the area with the loss also of Bournville school 6th form. Kings Norton 6th form has a good reputation and as a parent I looked at what 6th form provision was available before I choose to send my child to the school for the start of their secondary school journey. With less 6th form provision in the area it gives added competition for other schools who have limited external applicant places increasing the stress to our children who already have exam pressures. Unless you are lucky enough to attend a Grammer school it seems that the other children of this city have a secondary choice.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPW-6

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-29 19:25:53**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Local Resident

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

The 6th form has been an important part of the school for very many years. It has provided opportunities for boys to join and serve on the `Head Boy Team` which has played an important role in the life of the school and this has also benefited the boys in the team- developing their leadership skills, giving them opportunities to make speeches and organise events.

The 6th form has recently been able to offer boys the chance to complete their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award which has not been possible until now. Now this will no longer happen.

I feel many boys benefit from attending their school 6th form rather than going elsewhere- starting in year 12 as boys and leaving at the end of year 13 as confident, thoughtful young men. My eldest son received fantastic support in the 6th form and thoroughly enjoyed all the opportunities it provided, enabling him to go to Uni. My youngest son will not be so lucky and we are having to look elsewhere.

I appreciate funding is the main issue, but feel as other local school 6th forms have recently closed, and the current year 11 did not properly have the chance to choose KNBS 6th form, there must be another solution.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPQ-Z

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-29 22:24:04**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

We would like to express our extreme disappointment that Kings Norton Boys School is proposing to close its 6th form provision.

Our son is currently in Year 12 (first year of sixth form) and this will cause him, us and many others with boys lower down the school considerable distress.

We understand that the management and governors of the school have been forced into this position by the Government's significantly reduced 6th form funding and an excess of local 6th form provision.

The latter is caused in part by the setting up of the new £19 million University of Birmingham School. While we acknowledge that extra 11-16 places are required locally, additional 6th form places are obviously not. Bournville School closed its 6th form recently and now it looks likely that Kings Norton Boys School will follow suit.

The University of Birmingham School should have been set up without a 6th form (admittedly less attractive to the University of Birmingham but another sponsor could have been found) to give existing schools a fighting chance of surviving. The money saved from establishing a smaller new school could have been spent on supporting existing schools.

Poor planning to say the least!

We are very concerned as to how this will impact our son's A levels; one of his teachers has already resigned and left at Christmas.

Our son is a very able student; he is studying Physics, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths and intends to apply to University to study Engineering. If more of his teachers leave, this is bound to negatively affect him and this concerns us greatly.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HP4-3

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-30 20:20:24**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HP1-Z

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-30 21:21:12**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent, Local Resident

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

As the mother of 2 boys currently attending KNBS and another hopefully due to start in September I think it is very disappointing that 6th Form at KNBS will not be an option for them due to lack of funding. I think it is important to keep local schools with 6th forms as an option as some students thrive in this type of education rather than at larger colleges, especially as all children now have to stay in education until 18yrs of age. It's being able to choose with your child what the best option is for their further education. I feel these choices are being taken away. Having lived in the area all our lives & the boy's father attending KNBS, this school was always top of our list and having a 6th Form was another positive reason for wanting our boys to go there. Funding should be available to enhance & improve this service not remove it.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPN-W

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-30 21:22:01**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Local Resident

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPY-8

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**
Submitted on **2017-01-30 21:28:37**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

As a parent I feel it would be to the detriment of my family if choices continue to narrow due to "issues," whatever they are, and the causes of those issues, e.g budgets and resources not being deployed to their full potential? HR issues? - whatever they are they are not quite fully explained, none of which we have control over and are not of our making, and why the boys have to pay the price. I do have a possible positive proposal however. This is to merge the boys and girls sixth forms and rather than have a girls' sixth form that admits boys, a new, merged sixth form for kings norton provisions, that is unisex. That way both boys and girls in the community have equal opportunities rather than the boys being forced out of provision they may have wished to attend.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HP8-7

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-30 22:18:06**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Local Resident

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

I hate the idea of any sixth form closing however every schools financial circumstances are strained and so can understand the decision.

Response ID ANON-6GJY-7HPJ-S

Submitted to **School Organisation King's Norton Boys' School**

Submitted on **2017-01-30 23:08:13**

Introduction

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 What is your e mail address?

e mail:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your interest in the proposal?

Parent

other, please specify:

4 Are you in favour of the proposal?

No

Please give details:

This area has a rising population and quality A Level 6th Form provision seems to be reducing.

There are a number of other colleges in the vicinity who seem to be in financial difficulty or have already closed so, closing this 6th Form would limit further the number of places available to local children.

The School has a long and solid history. The teaching staff are, on the whole, excellent and dedicated to the all round education and well being of the pupils.

The School has always offered robust traditional subjects which are sought after by universities. The likes of which are not offered by other colleges in the area.

I appreciate the financial constraints on The School's budgets but don't feel at times the negative press about the closure helps. Eg. How do you expect to attract potential pupils when you are threatening closure?

It all just seems a very short sighted action to me. Once you lose it, you don't get it back. The present administration will make a short term saving but, in my opinion it will be a long term cost to the school. We and a number of our friends chose the school for our boys due to the opportunity to stay on at the 6th Form.

We would have to think very carefully before sending our younger son there.

RECEIVED
17 JAN 2017



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mary Lowe
The School Organisation Team
PO BOX 15843
Birmingham
B2 2RT

10 January 2017

Dear Ms Lowe

RE: Proposal of the Governing Body of King's Norton Boys School: Alteration to the age range from 11-18 years to 11-16 years

I am writing in response to the announcement from the Governing Body of King's Norton Boy's School that they will be commencing a statutory consultation on their proposals to alter the upper age range at the school from 11-18 to 11-16, resulting in the closure of the sixth form.

Obviously I am disappointed to learn of these plans especially given the sixth form's long and proud history of achievement. As the local MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak I regret the loss of any provision in my constituency but I am also conscious that the school has been unable to sustain its sixth form numbers.

I understand that the cost of running the sixth form provision is double the current funding received from the Education Funding Agency for Year 12 and 13 students. This, coupled with falling student numbers, means the sixth form provision is no longer financially viable. While it is deeply regrettable that the school is now facing this decision, without additional funding the danger is that the sixth form would need to be significantly subsidised at the expense of the secondary school. It is clear that this unfortunate situation will be exacerbated by proposed changes in the government's schools funding formula.

While it is deeply regrettable, given the difficult circumstances I accept that the decision by the school's governing body is one that had to be taken.

Yours sincerely

MP for Birmingham Selly Oak