



Euler Academy Consultation Report

December 2020

We strive to ensure that Euler Academy becomes the setting of choice for schools, local authorities and the wider community where pupils require early intervention, support and guidance







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1. Introduction

Following approval by the DfE in May 2017, Venn Academy Trusts application to form a new primary hybrid special free school in Hull was approved to move into the pre-opening phase of set up.

The new school known as Euler Academy is for 5-11-year olds with social, emotional, mental health needs in Hull and neighbouring areas. The school will be opening in September 2021.

The following report summarises the key information and data which was shared as part of the consultation and informs stakeholders of the outcomes and actions resulting from this consultation period. Consultation ran from 5 October 2020 – 27 November 2020.

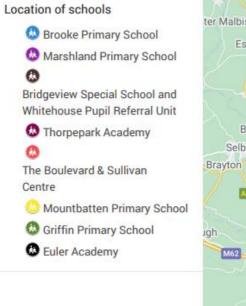
1.1 Geographic position of the school(s)

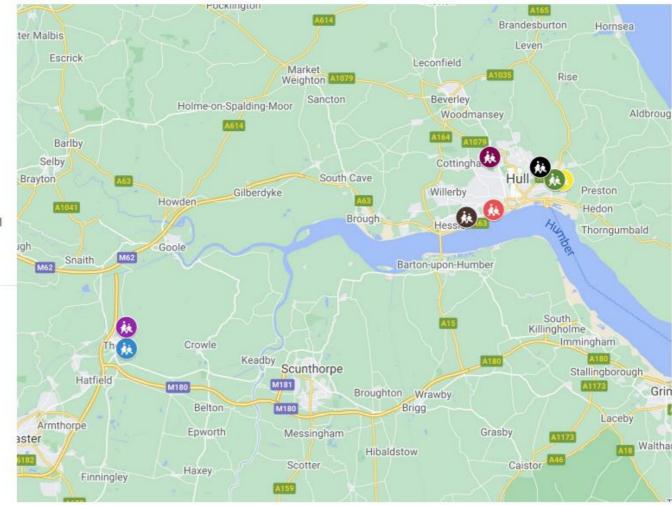
The map on page 4 shows where Euler Academy is to be located in the city. The close proximity to the other schools in the Venn Academy Trust will significantly aid joint working.





Euler Academy









2. Consultation Methodology

The overall aim of the consultation process was to ensure that everyone who has a stake in the development of the new school had the opportunity to hear about the education proposals and to share their views on the draft plans.

The objectives of the process were to:

- Provide relevant background information for stakeholders
- Explain the reasons for the new school
- Share key detail including key policies linked to admissions, safeguarding and SEND, site information and curriculum plans
- Provide an opportunity for stakeholders to hear / read more and ask questions

The principles laid down by the project team for the consultation were that it should be:

- An open and transparent process
- Accessible to all stakeholders in terms of:
 - The times of the events
 - The language used (jargon-free wherever possible and acronyms fully explained)
 - $\circ \quad \text{Well-publicised and advertised}$
 - Mix of meeting type including virtual and physical

A variety of media were used to consult including:

- Direct letters to all schools in Hull, the Local and neighbouring Authorities, councillors trade unions, public buildings including libraries, Colleges, and residents in the immediate vicinity of the proposed location of the new building
- Press releases / Media content
- Information sheets distributed
- Publicised meetings involving presentations and questions and answer sessions
- Online Survey
- Website / Social Media including Twitter
- Email

2.1 Direct letters

A letter and/or email introducing the consultation were sent electronically to the following groups and an example is included at Appendix 1a,1b and 1c:

- Local residents in the immediate vicinity of the proposed new build site
- Venn employees and Trades Unions
- Hull councillors, local authority and neighbouring LA's
- Local schools, colleges and training providers
- Key stakeholders in the region





2.2 Online survey

Throughout the consultation Google survey was used to capture a response to 9 key questions, these included:

- 1. Please tick the box which best describes the type of stakeholder you are?
- 2. Do you agree with our statement of provision (admissions policy)?
- 3. Do you agree with our safeguarding policy?
- 4. Do you agree with our SEND policy?
- 5. Is the curriculum offer engaging for the students who may attend the school?
- 6. Our proposed permanent site is situated on Saltshouse Road (the former Whitehouse PRU site) and will be easily accessible for pupils. Do you agree this is an appropriate location?
- 7. Should the Trust enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State to open our school? To understand more about what a Funding Agreement is log onto <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-funding-agreements-multi-academy-trust</u>
- 8. Any further comments or questions?
- 9. If you would like to receive a copy of the final report and findings and/or would like a response to any question asked whilst completing this survey please complete the details below before submitting your form

There was also an opportunity with all 9 questions to leave additional comments should the stakeholder wish to do so.

2.3 Press Release

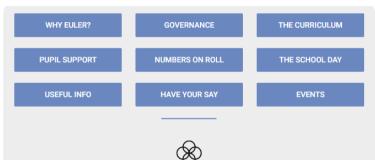
A press release was prepared and issued to the media via email on 5 October 2020.

2.4 Website

<u>https://vennacademytrust.org/euler/</u> was live throughout the consultation period. The site (which was accessed via the Venn Academy Trust website) was aimed at providing detailed information about Venn and the proposals with an opportunity to email questions or comments and/or to conduct the online survey. Screen shots of the site can be seen on the next page.



	EULER Academy	
VENN	Part of Venn Academy Trust and opening in autumn	
> About	2021, Euler Academy will be a hybrid special school	
> Our Schools	and alternative provision academy. Its purpose-bullt premises will offer up to 56 places for pupils aged 5 –	100
> Our Services	11, with social, emotional, mental health needs.	51
> Our Offer	Euler Academy will support pupils who are unable to	
Latest News	self-regulate their behaviour in school through short-	
	term placements that will unpick their negative	1
Recruitment	behaviours and help to support them in their	
Company Info	mainstream school.	
Contact	Under section 10 of the Academies Act 2010 the Trust	10
Euler Academy	is required to consult with stakeholders on our	1111
Venn School Year	proposals for the new school and as a result this	20
Response to Covid 19	website outlines further detail on where and how you	26
	can find out more about our proposed new free school.	n
The CASE Curriculum	This is your opportunity to have your say on our	
	proposals.	at a
Contact Info:		100
01482 505030		



About

Euler Academy will primarily meet the needs of Hull pupils but may also serve East Riding, North East Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire.

The academy's new two-story building will be built on Saltshouse Road on the site previously used as a pupil referral unit.

Venn Academy Trust was formed in September 2015 as a result of a strong partnership between four successful school settings. The Trust now consists of 10 schools and settings, Bridgeview Special School, Griffin Primary, Mountbatten Primary, The Sullivan Centre, Venn Boulevard Centre, Thorpepark Academy, Whitehouse PRU, The Boulevard Nursery, Brooke Primary Academy and Marshland Primary Academy. All schools and settings have a successful track record of offering educational pathways for children whatever their abilities or interests.

Venn and its schools are active partners in the Tidal Teaching School Alliance, which offers training and support to teachers and support staff to become highly effective.



Our vision

Core to the vision is the relentless focus on fostering pupil resilience and outstanding learning behaviour in mainstream schools and specialist settings.

Through this model pupils make exceptional progress from their differing starting points.

We

- ✓ Promote high aspirations and success for all
- ✓ Place sustained school improvement as a core educational standard
- ✓ Provide a stimulating and creative learning experience for all pupils
- ✓ Manage all settings to the highest standard
- Develop and promote effective leadership
- Establish all settings at the heart of their communities
- ✓ Enable dynamic professional learning and development for all





Values

- Meeting the needs of the pupils through the provision of excellent staff including teaching and non-teaching, learning and curricular;
- The importance and purpose of monitoring, evaluation and assessment;
- Working relationships with strategic local partners to promote the ethos of our academies within the local community, supporting positive local partnerships with parents, other schools, providers, business and local, regional and national stakeholders.

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For further information contact Helen Turner: $01482\ 505030$



Upcoming events

	Date	Time
General Events	15th October & 20th October	2:00pm & 4:00pm
School Event (inviting Chairs)	15th October	4:30pm
Councillors	20th October	2:30pm

Consultation process:

- Euler Consultation General Letter
- Complete online consultation form: Click Here
- 🔄 email us euler@vennacademy.org

Write to us:

Simon Witham, Venn Academy Trust, c/o The Boulevard Centre, The Venn Building, 172 The Boulevard, Hull, HU3 3EL





2.5 Publicised meetings

The following meetings were communicated to stakeholders and carried out virtually during the consultation period:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
15 October	4:30pm	School and Chair of Governors Consultation Meeting	Virtually
15 October & 20 October	2:00pm & 4:00pm	General Consultation Meeting	Virtually
20 October	2:30pm	Councillors Consultation Meeting	Virtually

2.6 Information Sheet

Copies of the information sheet were issued to stakeholders and can be found in Appendix 2. These were distributed with all the letters and either emailed electronically where addresses were known or posted to direct to individuals and residents.

2.7 Email – euler@vennacademy.org

The email address was generated to enable anyone who wished to be able to post a question or a comment about the proposals. At the end of the consultation period these questions and comments were collected to be responded to as appropriate.

2.8 Presentations

A presentation was prepared which shared information about Venn Academy Trust and why they are looking to open a Euler Academy. A copy of the presentation can be found in Appendix 3.

3. Overview of the Feedback received

Appendix 4 contains all the questions, comments and feedback received from the various media used throughout the consultation period. The number of participants in meetings and surveys responded to are listed below.





3.1 Attendance at Consultation Meetings

Date	Event	Venue	Number in attendance
15 October	School and Chair of Governors Consultation Meeting	Virtually	0
15 October & 20 October	General Consultation Meeting	Virtually	0
20 October	Councillors Consultation Meeting	Virtually	0
16 November	3pm Telephone	Meeting with Councillor Healand	1
17 November	3pm Virtual	Meeting with Councillor Tock	1

3.2 Online Survey

We received 0 completed surveys online. However, we did receive one electronic copy of a completed survey via email from a neighbouring local authority. Feedback is below and full detail is attached in Appendix 4 as part of the overall master feedback documentation.

- The respondent requested greater clarity that the induction will not be used as a trial period for children with EHC Plan- In line with SEN Code of Practice indicates this is not permitted. There are also concerns regarding block booking rather than needs based admission using the EHCP referral process.
- The respondent requested further information on the SEND policy and how risk assessments would be undertaken to manage behaviours and interaction with other pupils
- Further information on the proposed structure of annual and interim EHCP reviews was requested

A summary of all the responses, themes and the messages contained from responses in meetings or via email, is provided below in section 3.3.





3.3 Themes and Key Messages

Overall feedback was positive about the new school proposals. Stakeholders were most interested in:

- 3.4.1 Ongoing engagement with the school and Trust Venn must ensure prior to opening and beyond that its communications are timely and clear. When Covid permits and the building is nearing occupation local residents would like the opportunity to see the school first hand and Venn will certainly ensure it facilitates this request.
- 3.4.2 Policy and procedures linked to admissions and SEND As highlighted in section 3.2 feedback received would suggest we need to review the above policies and procedures to ensure clarity is provided on all matters. Due to the minimal feedback received we will ensure a conversation is held directly to allay any nervousness which may exist as well as updating documentation accordingly.

On the question which was raised in the online survey of should the secretary of state enter into a Funding Agreement with the Trust to open Euler only one response was received and they said Don't Know.

4. Trust response to the consultation feedback

Venn Academy Trust have reviewed the feedback provided as part of the consultation period and although disappointed with the overall volume of feedback the quality of what has been received will be utilised to inform the next stages of planning and development for the school.

The minimal feedback could be for a number of reasons including;

- o Covid and the virtual nature of meetings
- $\circ~$ That stakeholders are happy with the information received and the outline proposals
- The delays in getting to this stage 3.5 years on

As a result of the feedback received the Trust will be ensuring that:

- The final report is shared with those who requested a copy. This will also be published on the School and Trust websites and shared with Hull City Council, East Riding and North Lincolnshire and the Department for Education
- \circ Stakeholders are kept informed about progress of the new school
- Policies are updated to reflect feedback received as required





- Parents are represented on the governing body as early as possible. Venn will be seeking representation from the Hull Parent/Carer forum for the transition to the new school and the first 2 years of opening
- Information is provided in the press and via social media networks to keep stakeholders informed of progress and plans for the new school
- Our communications plan is updated to reflect stakeholders' feedback
- Long term relationships are built with neighbouring residents and area councillors to ensure ongoing engagement
- It continues to liaise closely with the build contractors and local residents to ensure as far as possible that we mitigate risks and disruptions both during the build process and when the school is open and fully operational

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, Venn recognise their ongoing responsibilities and give their absolute commitment to ensure they continue to engage with stakeholders for the long term. The Trust will continue to use a variety of methods of communication to ensure we are transparent, clear and honest with our messaging.

In 2016 when the initial application was drafted the Trust had commitment from schools in Hull to commission places and we continue 4 years on to have this commitment – to those schools we say thank you. Venn would also like to pass on its gratitude to Hull City Council in its commitment to support future commissioning of places at Euler which is a position that has evolved since our original application.

Euler Academy will make a difference to the lives of many young people across the city and beyond for years to come and Venn looks forward to working collectively with all partners and stakeholders to make it a huge success.





6. List of Appendices

Appendix 1a, 1b, 1c	Invitation letter
Appendix 2	Information sheet
Appendix 3	Presentation
Appendix 4	Master Feedback