

Sapientia Education Trust  
Wymondham College  
Golf Links Road  
Wymondham  
NR18 9SZ

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents and Stakeholders,

**Feedback from the consultation process regarding Tivetshall and Burston Schools**

We are writing to thank you for your contribution to the consultation process and to provide you with our formal response.

Sapientia Trustees reviewed the consultation process on Thursday 29/11/2019, taking due cognisance of all the comments made and received during the public meetings and in writing.

Having reviewed the community and other stakeholders' comments, the following points were the 'headlines' from the process:

- There is strong community support for both schools
- There are many very positive stories from current parents and past pupils, illustrating the benefits of small schools' contexts
- An acceptance that numbers need to be sustainable in the medium to long term
- That further community engagement, including active groups of parents and 'word of mouth' is crucial
- That more time for the schools to work on community engagement would be beneficial

**Sapientia Education Trust**

Wymondham College, Golf Links Road, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 9SZ  
enquiries@se-trust.org | 01953 609000 | www.se-trust.org

Sapientia Education Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 7466353

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Trustees affirmed:

- Our commitment to the rural context of Norfolk and our small rural schools (within reasonable and realistic constraints)
- Our willingness to work with the communities of both schools to build pupil numbers up from current levels
- Our support for Mark Carlyle and the staff team

We will:

- Actively monitor numbers moving forward (with Jan 2021 an important milestone – as that is the deadline for Sept 2021 reception entries)

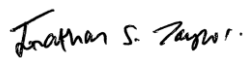
As such:

- **We have decided not to proceed with the proposals outlined in the consultation to allow more time to work with the communities to seek to make both schools viable in the medium to longer term.**

We are very grateful to the parent support groups who have already started to work with Mark Carlyle and the LGB. We have seen a net gain of 7 pupils already across the two schools – that is very encouraging!

**Your on-going support is welcomed and needed. Please remain active and talk about the positive experiences children have at both schools as loudly and widely as you can – word of mouth recommendations make a real difference.**

Yours sincerely



Jonathan S. Taylor

**Jonathan Taylor**

CEO Sapientia Education Trust & NLE

On behalf of Sapientia Education Trust Trustees

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