

Cabinet report 21 May 2008 Annexe A Appendix 3
Report of themes from comments and count of points made

Issue	Agrees	Disagrees	Don't know/blank	Total
OPERATION ISSUES OF COMBINED SCHOOL				
Large school	6	14	2	22
Funding	7	10	2	19
Facility sharing – general	10	2	2	14
Facility sharing – Staff	4	1	1	6
Facilities sharing – Space and premises	3	0	1	4
Attract staff and give opportunities	6	3	1	10
Facility sharing – Ethos and policies	8	0	1	9
Admission process	1	0	0	1
One new governing body	4	1	0	5
Total points made in this theme	49	31	10	90
PROCESS ISSUES				
Process – complaints	12	16	1	29
Speed of decision – need quickly	20	1	2	23
Need stability, cut uncertainty	6	1	1	8
Make sure result is accepted and acted upon	3	0	0	3
LA not trusted	0	1	1	2
Steering group issues	6	3	1	10
Total points made in this theme	47	22	6	75
CHILDREN				
Positive for children	14	5	1	20
Transition process	15	0	1	16
Transition process Special Educational Needs	2	0	0	2
Child peer support	2	0	0	2
Children enjoy growing experience	0	6	0	6
Total points made in this theme	33	11	2	46
EDUCATION RESULTS				
Education results – general	9	18	0	27
Education results – curriculum continuity	12	0	1	13
Total points made in this theme	21	18	1	40
LEADERSHIP				
Strong Leadership is required	13	1	1	15
HT – Mrs James should be HT of combined school	16	1	2	19
Total points made in this theme	29	2	3	34
CONCERNS ABOUT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SCHOOLS				
Rift between schools	6	3	2	11
Complaints about First School Governing Body	0	4	0	4
Complaints about Middle School Governing Body	13	1	0	14
Total points made in this theme	19	8	2	29
RETAIN SEPARATE SCHOOLS				
Schools successful as they are – leave them as they are	0	15	1	16
Leave as is	0	5	1	6
Disruption	1	4	0	5
Total points made in this theme	1	24	2	27
CHANGE IN AGE OF TRANSFER				
It is LA policy	1	1	0	2
Likely to happen sooner or later, so please do so now	15	0	1	16
Delay until 11+ transfer change	0	4	1	5
Total points made in this theme	16	5	2	23

Notes about the analysis of the comments received

1. The comments made on the consultation response forms have been typed, and all identifiers removed to preserve anonymity. 153 (52.5%) of the 291 returned consultation response forms contained comments. Also included in the analysis are comments received from two interested parties who wrote in response to the consultation.
2. Some comments were very detailed and others were brief, and many contained a number of points. As far as practicable, all the points made have been included in the analysis.
3. Out of the 153 consultation response forms with comments, 101 agreed with amalgamation, 45 disagreed, 6 were unsure, and 1 did not express an opinion. 51 were from families of children in the first school, 33 were from families of children in the middle school, 32 were from families of children in both schools, and 37 from staff/governors without children at the school.
4. The steering group also decided that officers would collate the comments into themes to assist analysis and consideration by the steering group. This is because it was anticipated there would be commonality and repetition.