

## Appendix C

### **Merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School Statutory Consultation Online Survey Results**

The statutory consultation period regarding the merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School into one new primary school at the Fraserburgh Academy site ran between 12 December 2022 and 24 February 2023. During the consultation period parents/carers, stakeholders and community members were invited to participate in an online survey to express their opinion on the proposal.

The survey was focused solely on the merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School.

A total of 91 people took part in the survey with 95 comments left regarding the proposal. It is recognised that stakeholders may have more than one child, therefore more than one answer has been provided for some of the questions. Many respondents left multiple comments covering more than one topic and some left no comments.

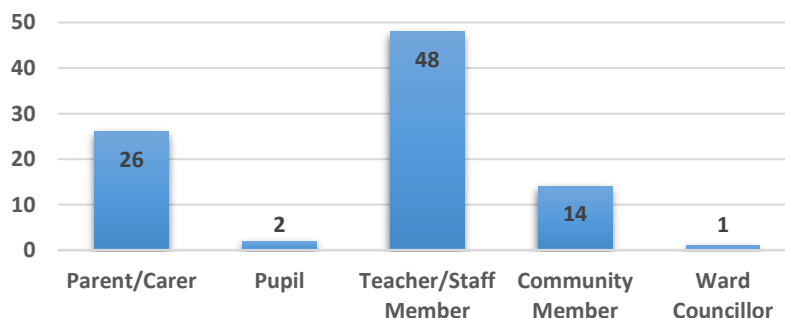
All completed surveys have been analysed, categorised and are summarised below. This report shows a summary of the results received.

**Question 1** - The participants were asked to confirm that they have read the Aberdeenshire Privacy Notice.

**Question 2** - The participants were asked if they are a parent/carer, pupil, teacher/staff member, community member and other.

Chart 1 below shows that the highest number of respondents were teachers/staff members. The survey was completed by 26 (29%) parents/carers, two (2%) pupils, 48 (53%) teachers/staff members, 14 (15%) community members and one (1%) Ward Councillor.

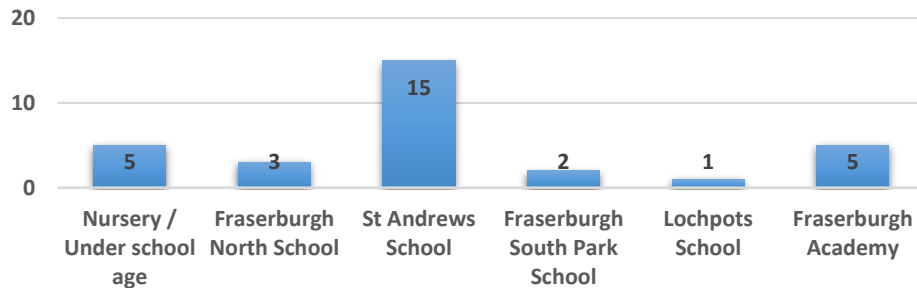
Chart 1



Of those parents/carers who completed the survey, three (10%) parents have children attending Fraserburgh North School, 15 (48%) have children attending St Andrews School, five (16%) have children under school age or attending a nurse and five

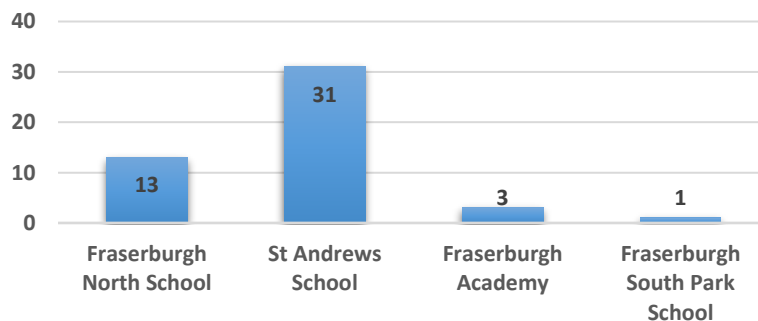
(16%) attending Fraserburgh Academy. Chart 2 below shows the results from the question.

Chart 2



Teachers/staff members were asked which school they are based at. The majority of those who completed the survey, 31 (65%), is based at St Andrews School, 13 (27%) at Fraserburgh North School and three (6%) at Fraserburgh Academy. Chart 3 below shows the results from the question.

Chart 3

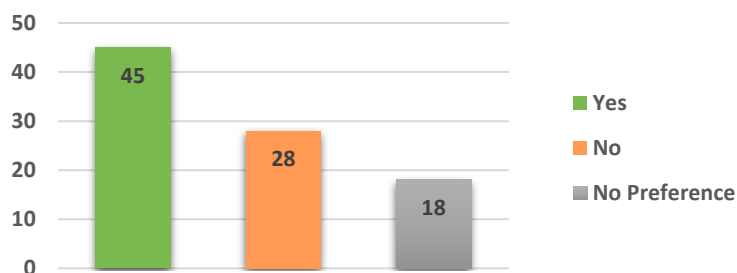


In total two pupils completed the survey. One is a Primary School pupil and the other is a Fraserburgh Academy student.

**Question 3** - The participants were asked if they support the move of Fraserburgh North School to the New Primary School.

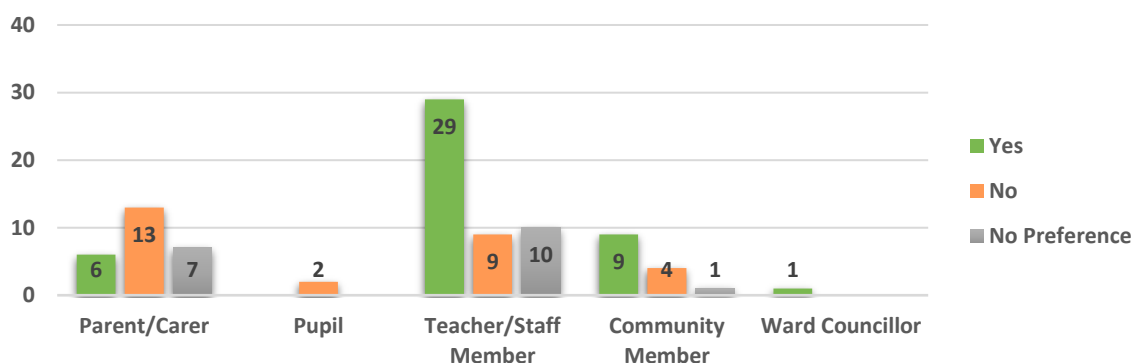
As shown in Chart 4, 45 (49%) respondents support the move, 28 (31%) do not support the move and 18 (20%) have no preference whether Fraserburgh North School moves to the new primary school.

Chart 4



Details of how individual interest groups voted on the relocation of Fraserburgh North School into the new primary school are presented below in Chart 5.

**Chart 5**



Further analysis of the 26 responses from the parent/carers shows that six (23%) support the move, 13 (50%) do not support the move and seven (27%) have no preference whether Fraserburgh North School moves to the new primary school.

There were five responses from parents/carers who currently have children under school age or attending nursery. All five consultees do not support the move of Fraserburgh North School to the new primary school.

Of the three Fraserburgh North School parents/carers who completed the survey, one supports the move and two are against it.

A total of 15 parents/carers from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these two support the move, seven do not support the move and six have no preference.

Five Fraserburgh Academy parents/carers completed the survey, of these one supports the move, one is against and three have no preference.

Of the 48 teachers/staff members who completed the survey, 29 (60%) support the move, nine (19%) are against the move and 10 (21%) have no preference whether Fraserburgh North School moves to the new primary school.

A total of 13 teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh North School completed the survey, of these seven support the move, five are against the move and one has no preference.

A total of 31 teachers/staff members from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these 20 support the move, three are against and eight have no preference.

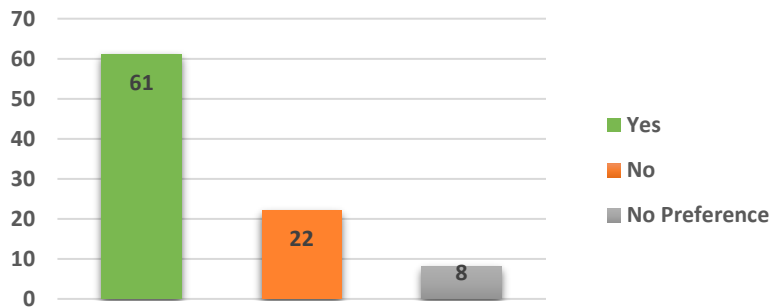
Of the three teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh Academy who completed the survey, one supports the move, one is against the move and one has no preference.

The relocation of Fraserburgh North School to the new primary school is supported by nine community members and one Councillor. Two pupils and four community members are against the move and one community member has no preference.

**Question 4** - The participants were asked if they support the move of St Andrews School to the New Primary School.

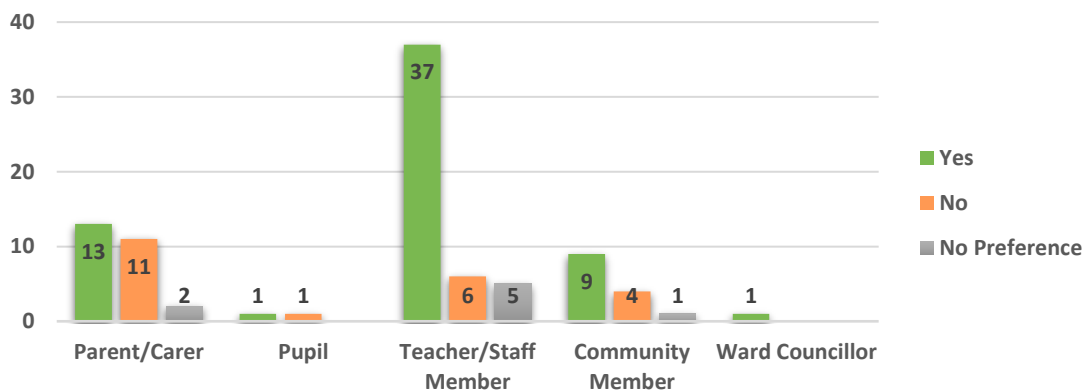
As shown in Chart 6, 61 (67%) respondents support the move, 22 (24%) do not support the move and eight (9%) have no preference whether St Andrews School moves to the new primary school.

Chart 6



Details of how individual interest groups voted on the relocation of St Andrews School into the new primary school are presented below in Chart 7.

Chart 7



Further analysis of the 26 responses from the parent/carers shows that 13 (50%) support the move, 11 (42%) do not support the move and two (8%) have no preference whether St Andrews School moves to the new primary school.

There were five responses from parents/carers who currently have children under school age or attending nursery. All five consultees do not support the move of St Andrews School to the new primary school.

Of the three Fraserburgh North School parents/carers who completed the survey, two do not support the move and one has no preference.

A total of 15 parents/carers from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these three support the move, eight do not support the move and four have no preference.

Five Fraserburgh Academy parents/carers completed the survey, of these two support the move, one is against and two have no preference.

Of the 48 teachers/staff members who completed the survey, 37 (77%) support the move, six (13%) are against the move and five (10%) have no preference whether St Andrews School moves to the new primary school.

A total of 13 teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh North School completed the survey, of these five support the move, five are against and three have no preference.

A total of 31 teachers/staff members from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these 30 support the move and one has no preference.

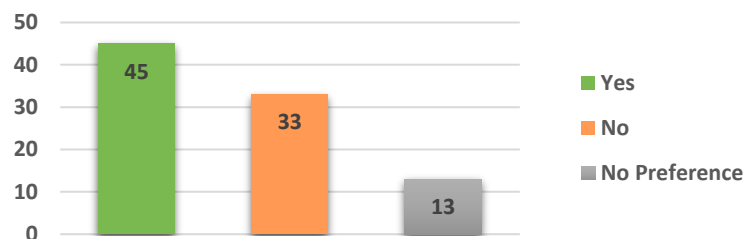
Of the three teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh Academy who completed the survey, one supports the move, one is against the move and one has no preference.

The relocation of St Andrews School to the new primary school is supported by one pupil, nine community members and one Councillor. One pupil and four community members are against the move and one community member has no preference.

**Question 5** - The participants were asked if they support the merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School within the New Primary School.

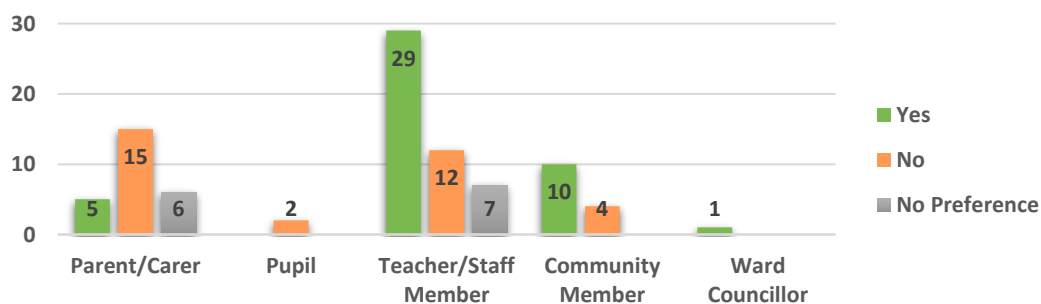
As shown in Chart 8, 45 (49%) respondents support the merger, 33 (36%) do not support the merger and 13 (14%) have no preference if Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews merge within the new primary school.

Chart 8



Details of how individual interest groups voted on the merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School within the new primary school are presented below in Chart 9.

Chart 9



Further analysis of the 26 responses from the parent/carers shows that five (19%) support the merger, 15 (58%) do not support the merger and six (23%) have no

preference whether Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School merge into one primary school.

There were five responses from parents/carers who currently have children under school age or attending nursery. All five consultees do not support the merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School.

Of the three Fraserburgh North School parents/carers who completed the survey, two are against the merger and one has no preference.

A total of 15 parents/carers from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these three support the merger, eight do not support the merger and four have no preference.

Five Fraserburgh Academy parents/carers completed the survey, of these two support the merger, one is against the merger and two have no preference.

Of the 48 teachers/staff members who completed the survey, 29 (60%) support the merger, 12 (25%) are against the merger and seven (15%) have no preference whether Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews merge into one primary school.

A total of 13 teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh North School completed the survey, of these five support the merger, seven are against the merger and one has no preference.

A total of 31 teachers/staff members from St Andrews School completed the survey, of these 22 support the merger, three are against and six have no preference.

Of the three teachers/staff members from Fraserburgh Academy who completed the survey, one supports the merger and two are against the merger.

The merger of Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School within the new primary school is supported by ten community members and one Councillor. Two pupils and four community members are against the merger proposal.

**Question 6** - The participants were asked what are the most important issues that would need to be considered whether it is decided to merge Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School within the new Primary School located at the Fraserburgh Academy site.

A total of 71 comments were received and many of the participants covered multiple topics. They have been categorised and presented below ranging from the most frequently raised to the least mentioned:

- Location: traffic flow, congestion, road safety, parking and drainage issues
- Academy pupils' behaviour
- Primary and secondary co-location
- Merger
- Access and drop-off/pick-up points
- Staffing
- School size
- Safety
- Class sizes

- School start/finish and lunch times
- Additional Support Needs provision
- Stakeholders involvement
- Transition
- Outdoor spaces
- Existing buildings' future
- Existing schools upgrade
- Nursery provision
- Meeting community needs
- Travel distance
- Rezoning
- Dining facilities
- Litter

**Question 7** - The participants were asked to provide any other comments.

A total of 24 comments were received and some of the participants covered more than one topic. Comments provided by the respondents under this question largely correspond with the comments provided under Question 6. All comments have been categorised and presented below ranging from the most frequently raised to the least mentioned:

- Positive about the new build
- Positive about the merger
- Negative about the merger
- Location
- Existing buildings' future
- Primary and secondary co-location
- School size
- Transition
- Existing Schools Upgrade

The consultees also left a number of questions regarding the proposal and they are listed below:

- Is there anywhere else that a new school could go that wasn't on the academy grounds?
- Look for other grounds somewhere else?
- What about up the bypass as new houses are being built up there?
- Is the site suitable for building in terms of drainage/flood risk?
- Will all staff merge and maintain their jobs?
- Is there an option to redeploy to another school in the cluster?
- Will the class sizes increase?
- Will this mean the classroom will have too many children?
- Are more pupils going to be added to each year (increasing class sizes) or does it mean potentially 3-4 classes per school year?
- What will happen to the existing buildings?
- Will the nursery setting be situated within the new school?

## Conclusions

The majority of the respondents are generally in agreement with Fraserburgh North School and St Andrews School relocating into the new Primary School at the Fraserburgh Academy site, as one primary school. 49% of the respondents support the Fraserburgh North School's move to the new primary school, 67% support the St Andrews School's move to the new primary school and 49% support the merger of the schools within one primary school at the academy site.

The five parents of children under school age who completed the survey are opposed to the proposal as a whole. Of the remaining 21 parents/carers who completed the survey, half of them are against the Fraserburgh North School's move to the new primary school, but they are in favour of the St Andrews School's move. The majority is against the merger of the two schools into one school at the new site.

In total 18 parents who have children at Fraserburgh North or St Andrews completed the survey. Of the three Fraserburgh North School parents, two are against the proposal as a whole, and one is in favour of the move of St Andrews and Fraserburgh North to the new school but has no preference in terms of the merger.

Across 15 St Andrews School parents that completed the survey, two are supportive of the proposal as a whole and four are against it. The remaining nine St Andrews parents have mixed feelings about either the move of St Andrews or Fraserburgh North to the new school or the two schools' merger into one at the new location. The majority is of the opinion that St Andrews School should be moved to the new school with no preference regarding the Fraserburgh North School's move. One supports the merger, five are against and four have no preference.

One Fraserburgh North School pupil is supportive of the St Andrews School's move to the new school but against Fraserburgh North School's move and the merger. The Fraserburgh Academy student is against the proposal as a whole. Pupil feedback was also gathered by the schools and is provided in Appendices E, F and G.

The vast majority of the teacher/staff members and remaining stakeholders support the New Primary School principle in Fraserburgh and the merger of Fraserburgh North and St Andrews Schools into one school.

The consultees provided comments for the Council to consider, but it is felt that these are the matters that the consultees are the most concerned about in terms of the relocation and merger proposal.

The biggest concern to participants of the survey was the location of the new school, mainly due to the traffic and congestion issues around the area. Many highlighted parking issues and few mentioned that the site may not be appropriate due to drainage issues. The Council should also take special care about access and drop-off/pick-up points.

Another aspect highlighted by the stakeholders was the co-location of the new primary school and the academy. It is believed that the primary pupils would be exposed to the unsuitable behaviour of older students, including inappropriate vocabulary, bullying, vandalism, smoking and drug use.



Some consultees were worried about the merger itself and school size, thinking the school will be too big and some pupils may not cope with a bigger environment. It is also believed that the number of pupils per class will increase resulting in less individual time and pupils will not receive the required support. Some stated that there is no sufficient space to fit the entire school and facilities at the site.

There were voices indicating a requirement for sessions to be arranged for pupils and staff from both schools to get to know each other. It is important that both schools are treated equally, jointly building relationships and creating a new school community.

The Council should also have a special regard for pupils' safety, ASN provision, continuing stakeholders' involvement as the project progresses, transition to the new school, outdoor spaces and nursery provision.

Negative comments made were in respect of the location and merging two different entities into one school, triggering many issues. Few consultees felt that the existing schools should be renovated rather than build a new school and some mentioned an increase in walking distance to the new school. Few respondents mentioned about applying for an out of zone school placement if the project goes ahead.

There were supportive comments welcoming the merger and the location of the new school on the Fraserburgh Academy site. With suggestions that current facilities are inadequate for children's safety and education and neither having the potential to improve spaces, the new build will be a great opportunity to improve the condition and suitability. Pupils will benefit from a modern learning environment and access to fit for purpose facilities and resources.