

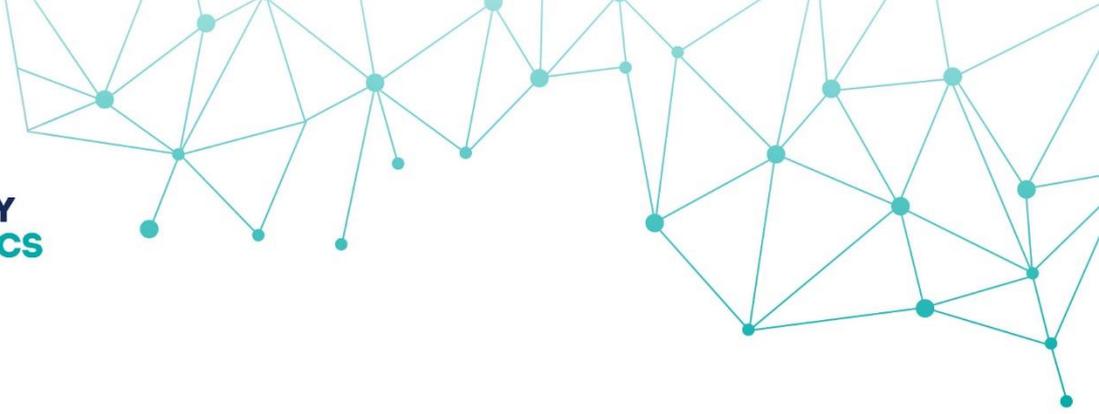


LANCASTER UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS

**Lancaster University**

**School of Mathematics**

Section 10 Consultation Report

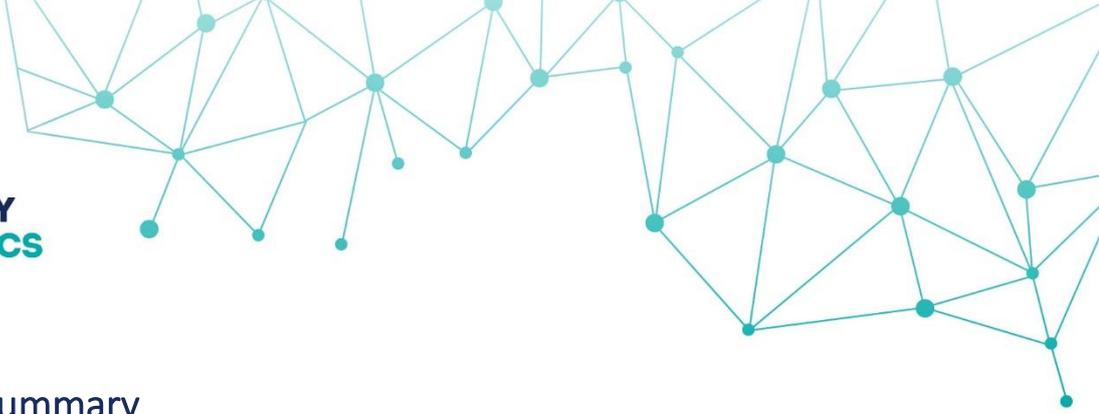


## Contents

- 1. Executive Summary ..... 2
- 2. LUSoM Overview ..... 3
- 3. Consultation Methodology ..... 5
- 4. Stakeholders Consulted ..... 7
- 5. Analysis of Consultation Responses ..... 8
  - 5.1. Questionnaire ..... 8
  - 5.2. Responses Via Email ..... 13
- 6. Responding to issues raised through the consultation ..... 15
  - 6.1. Actions taken as a result of responses received. .... 17
- 7. Conclusion ..... 18

## Appendices

<b>Appendix A</b>	Consultation Postcard
<b>Appendix B</b>	Consultation Leaflet
<b>Appendix C</b>	Consultation Questionnaire
<b>Appendix D</b>	Consultation Presentation
<b>Appendix E</b>	FAQ's



## 1. Executive Summary

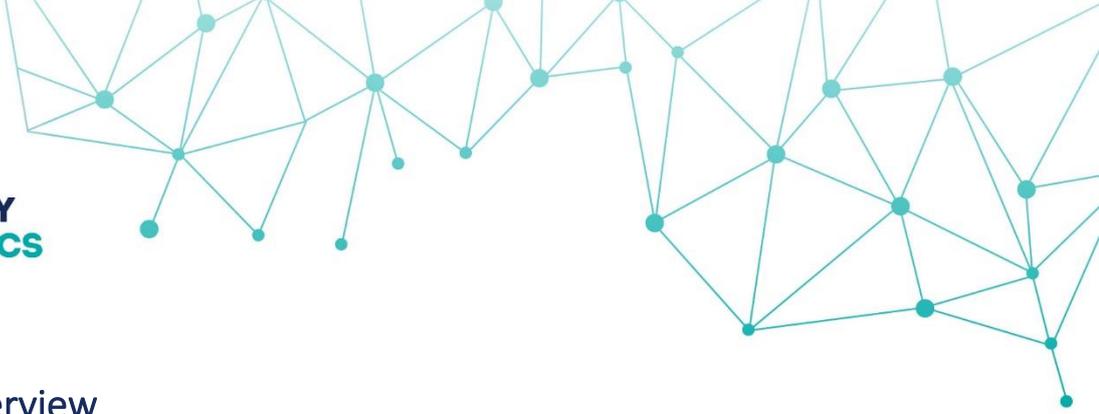
This Section 10 Consultation Report has been produced to aid the Secretary of State in their decision on whether to sign the Funding Agreement for Lancaster University School of Mathematics (LUSoM), a 16-19 selective free school operated by the Rigby Education Trust.

This report outlines the consultation process which took place over a six-week period, ending on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Details on the consultation method, responses from the stakeholders as well as common questions and official responses from the Rigby Education Trust concerning LUSoM are included within this report.

The consultation followed a methodical process designed to follow the advice and statutory requirements set out by the Department for Education.

The Rigby Education Trust consulted with the key stakeholders providing supporting information, online presentations with Q&A sessions (these were completed virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and a questionnaire, as well as providing a dedicated email address for stakeholders to ask questions directly. From the consultation responses provided, the Trust has developed a comprehensive overview of the opinions and views of key stakeholders and the local community. The outreach activities planned for LUSoM and the presence of the school in the local community can be tailored, regarding the consultation responses, to make a positive impact on the provision in the region.

The general response from the public was mixed, with teachers from local colleges making up a large proportion of the responses, and few responses from the local community. This reflects the nature of the pattern of post-16 provision in the region and the proposed school being largely uncontroversial within the secondary sector and local community. Of the proportion of respondents that were opposed to the opening of LUSoM, 87.5% of these described themselves as members of staff/governors at local colleges, this is expanded on in *Section 5.1: Question 3*.



## 2. LUSoM Overview

LUSoM is a 16-19 selective free school focusing on educating students with a high aptitude for Mathematics, with a planned opening date of September 2022. A target of 90 students will be admitted into year 12 in September 2022 growing year on year to an annual intake of 130 students, with a total student capacity of 260 students over the two-year groups (year 12 and 13). LUSoM will be based in a new building on London Road in Preston.

LUSoM will be part of the Rigby Education Trust, a single academy trust with partners from Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University. The school will have a high standard of teaching including guest lecturers from Lancaster University offering masterclasses to students, allowing them to broaden and strengthen their understanding of advanced level and undergraduate level Mathematics.

At LUSoM, all students will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, alongside one or two additional A-level or Level 3 equivalents with Physics, Chemistry and Computer Science A-Levels being taught directly at the School. If students wish to study a broader range of subjects than offered at LUSoM, they will be given the opportunity to pick from the wider array of level 3 qualifications offered at Cardinal Newman College. Most students will undertake their full study programme directly at LUSoM and the number of students who will choose to study additional Level 3 courses at Cardinal Newman College will be small and by exception.

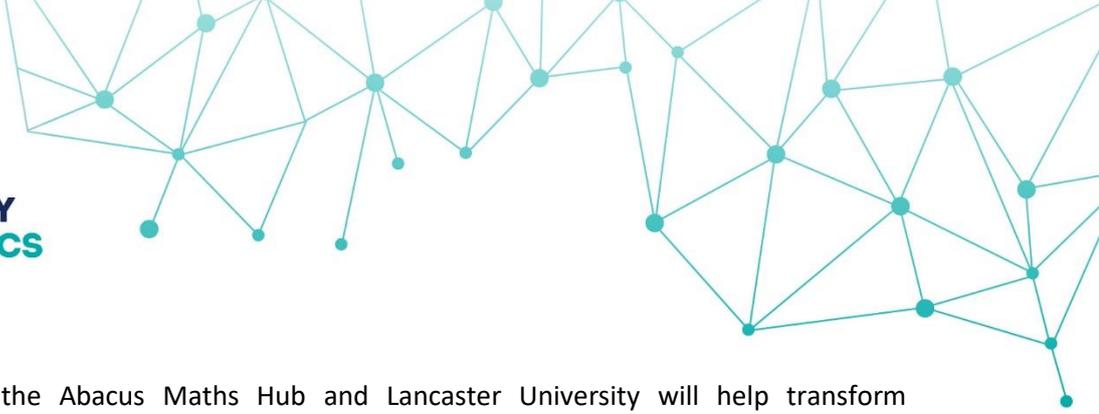
In addition to the A-level options students will undertake at LUSoM, all students will undertake the LUSoM Award qualification. The LUSoM Award will be a rigorous academic programme devised by Lancaster University academics in consultation with Lancaster University School of Mathematics staff. In Year 12, students will collaborate in teams, completing a group project. In Year 13 they will be taught in groups but develop a piece of individual research that could develop into an EPQ. The LUSoM Award will be recognised as a qualification of high prestige, setting Maths School students apart. It will form an essential part in preparing students for university study. In addition, the project will provide students with the opportunity to explore an area of advanced mathematics while working with expert practitioners in a wide range of fields.

The School will offer highly motivated and talented mathematicians a place to thrive and go on to contribute, through mathematics, to the productivity of the UK economy.

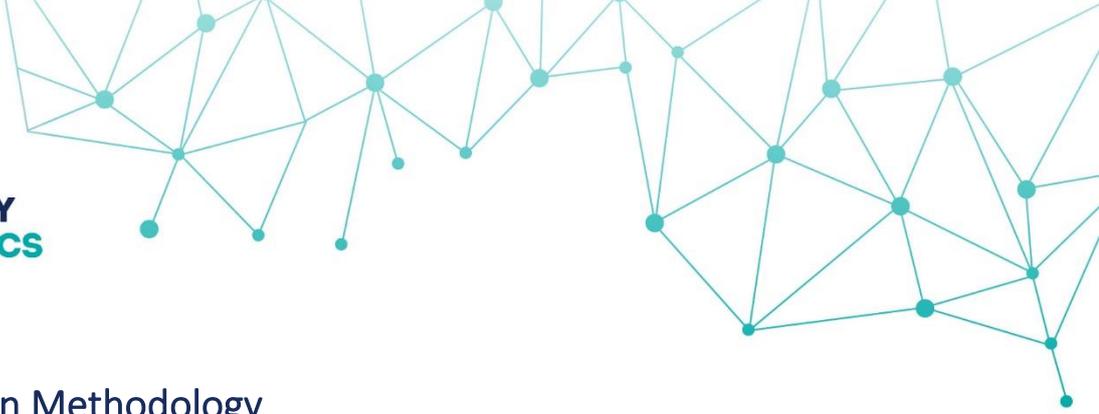
LUSoM will have a large focus on widening participation in higher-level mathematics in all institutions within the region. The school will achieve this by aiming to share best practice throughout the region, raising achievement and aspirations for all. A substantial outreach programme will be offered to schools within the region, with activities ranging from masterclasses and teacher INSET to mentoring and the sharing of online resources. Close



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collaboration with the Abacus Maths Hub and Lancaster University will help transform mathematics education across the region.



### 3. Consultation Methodology

The LUSoM Section 10 consultation was launched through an information postcard that was sent to a wide range of stakeholders and an advertisement that was placed in the Lancashire Evening Post newspaper. 342 individual emails were issued to the wide range of Stakeholders containing information on LUSoM and the consultation as well as a link to the LUSoM website [www.LUSoM.ac.uk](http://www.LUSoM.ac.uk) which contains:

- a) a link directly through to the online questionnaire;
- b) a pdf version of all of the information (including the leaflet, a more comprehensive booklet and version of the questionnaire) for those who wished to print the information;
- c) a [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk) email address for specific responses and questions about the School (Flinders Chase are acting as the Project Managers on behalf of the Rigby Education Trust); and
- d) the draft LUSoM Admissions Policy and draft LUSoM Appeals Policy.

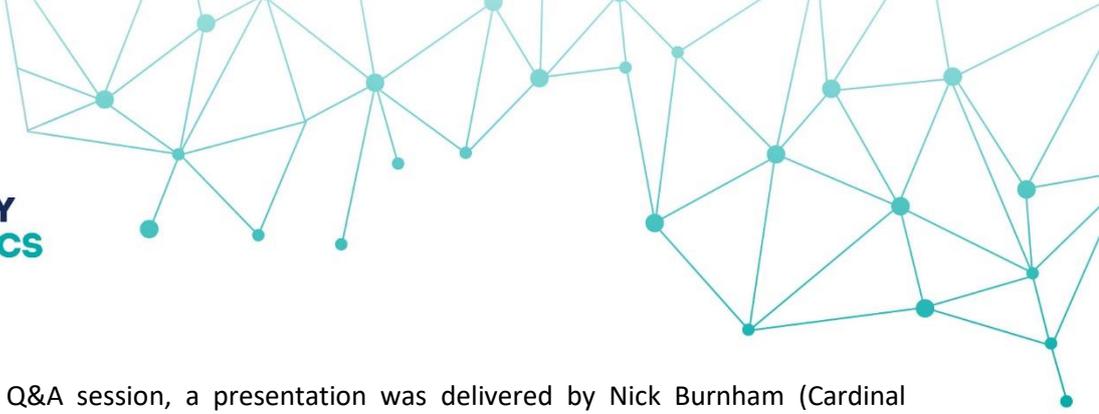
The presentation used within the consultation Q&A sessions was uploaded onto LUSoM.ac.uk after the final consultation event, the presentation can be seen in *Appendix D*.

Information about the School within the consultation leaflet included:

- a) Vision and values
- b) Location
- c) The need for the Maths School
- d) Curriculum
- e) Information about the Executive Principal
- f) Admissions
- g) Information about how to take part in the consultation.

Online Q&A sessions, led by Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University, were held on the following dates:

Monday February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	17.30 - 18.10 and 18.30 - 19.10
Saturday February 27 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 - 12.10 and 12.30 - 13.10
Monday March 8 <sup>th</sup>	17.30 - 18.10 and 18.30 - 19.10
Saturday March 13 <sup>th</sup>	11.30 - 12.10 and 12.30 - 13.10

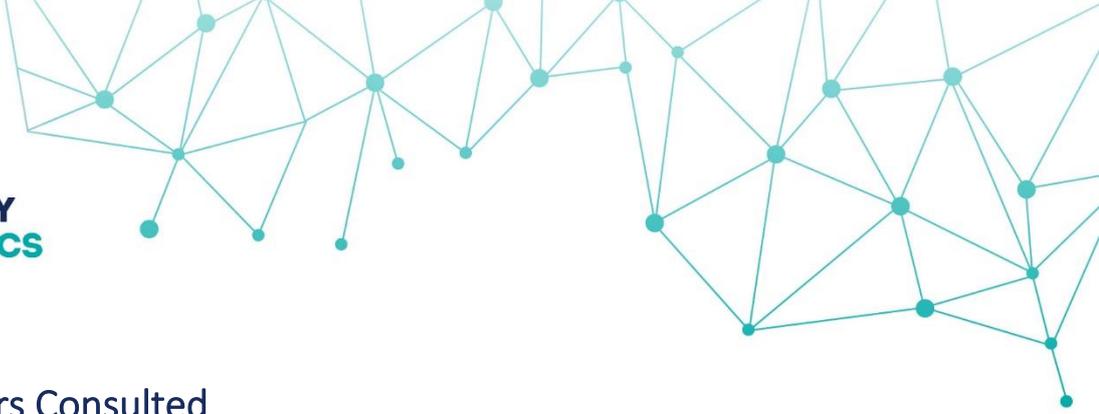


During each online Q&A session, a presentation was delivered by Nick Burnham (Cardinal Newman College Principal) and Alex Belton (Lancaster University) with the opportunity for participants to ask questions and discuss the School.

A general interest story ran in the Lancashire Guardian with interviews from Nick Burnham and Alex Belton, this included information on the Section 10 consultation with a link to the LUSoM website.

Social media platforms were also used by Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University to share information about the consultation and the School to stakeholders.

All responses from the online Q&A session and questionnaire were collated. Documents used within the consultation process can be found in the appendices.



#### 4. Stakeholders Consulted

The following stakeholders were contacted directly via email as part of the LUSoM consultation:

- All Secondary Schools within Lancashire
- Lancashire County Council and other Councils within the North West of England
- Post 16/FE Colleges within the likely catchment area in the North West of England
- Universities within the likely catchment area in the North West of England
- Local Members of Parliament, 16 MP's contacted with a geological spread of Wigan to Morecambe and Lunesdale
- Local Councillors
- The Abacus Maths Hub
- National Centre of Excellence for Teaching of Mathematics
- The Advanced Maths Support Programme
- The Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub and Lancashire LEP

An advertisement in the Lancashire Evening Post invited members of the local community to participate in the consultation if they wished to do so and stakeholders were encouraged to email the hotline with any direct questions or requests for further information.

An online meeting was held with Lancashire County Council prior to the release of the LUSoM consultation and the LUSoM Executive Principal attended a Lancashire Secondary Headteachers meeting to brief Headteachers and answer any questions.



## 5. Analysis of Consultation Responses

### 5.1. Questionnaire

Participants were notified that the questions and responses from the consultation events as well as responses to the questionnaire would be anonymously recorded by the Flinders Chase team who are acting as project managers, on behalf of the Trust, to be used within this report.

Responses received via the [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.ac.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.ac.uk) email were logged and recorded by Flinders Chase with the date received, detail of the response including any questions, actions required, and responses given.

A downloadable version of the questionnaire was available via the LUSoM.ac.uk website, this document contained the address of Flinders Chase, acting Project Managers on behalf of the Rigby Education Trust, to allow respondents to submit their views via post. However, no postal responses were received.

The questionnaire allowed respondents to add additional information after questions 2-6 to give respondents an opportunity to elaborate on their viewpoint to each question. In addition, question 7 was open to any additional comments or questions that the survey may not have covered. The questionnaire can be seen in *Appendix C*.

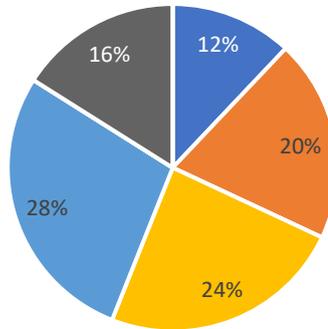
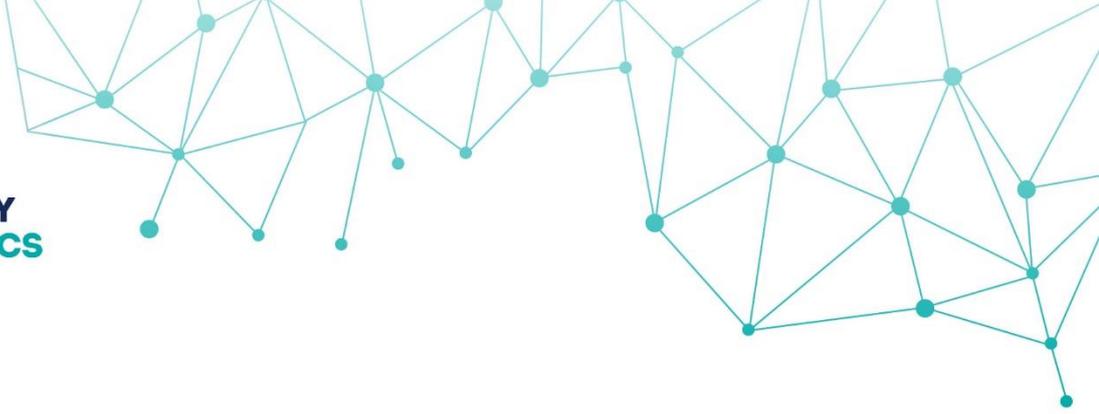
The analysis of the quantitative and qualitative responses are shown below. A total of twenty-one (21) people responded to the online survey.

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#### Question 1 – What description best describes you?

The largest respondent group was members of staff/governors from neighbouring local colleges (28%), followed by members of staff/governors at local secondary schools (24%).

Note: Respondants were able to select more than one description to describe themselves.



■ Parent/carer ■ Local Resident ■ MoS/Gov at Secondary School ■ MoS/Gov at college ■ Other

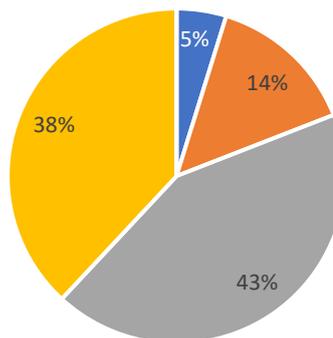
Four respondents identified themselves as other, the description they supplied can be seen below:

- Previous Maths School student (Kings Maths School)
- Hub Board Member
- Student
- Headteacher at a local school with 6th form

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### Question 2 - Where do you live in relation to the proposed site?

The distances of where the questionnaire respondents live/work can be seen on the chart below.

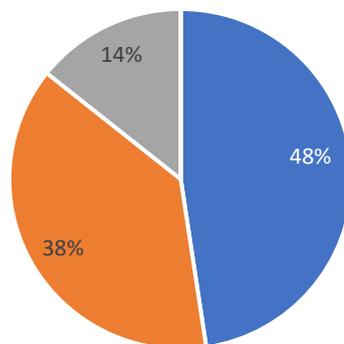


■ Within 1 Mile ■ Within 3 Miles ■ Within 10 Miles ■ Further than 10 Miles



**Question 3 - Do you agree that opening the proposed School will provide an important extra choice for parents and young people?**

As previously stated the responses from the questionnaire were mixed, with 48% of people agreeing that LUSoM would provide an important extra choice to students within the local area and 38% of the total respondents disagreeing. 87.5% of the respondents that do not support the opening of LUSoM identified themselves as being members of staff/governors at neighbouring local colleges.



■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure ■ No Answer

**Comments included by respondents that answered no:**

- There is already sufficient outstanding provision for the most able 16-19 year old students of mathematics.
- It is one more step on developing elitist and exclusionary education in England
- *One respondent provided details of the high-performing student provision at Runshaw College and positive HE destinations to justify why they felt LUSoM was unnecessary*
- It duplicates provision already in place at a number of other locations.
- These choices were always available

**Comments included by respondents that answered yes:**

- It was very beneficial to me.



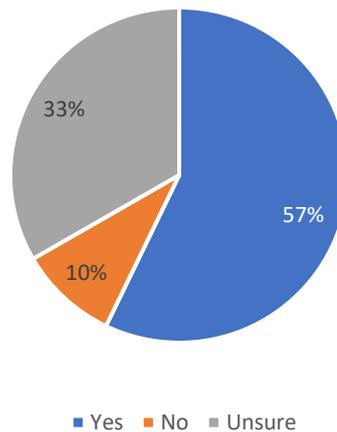
**Comments included by respondents that answered unsure:**

- The region has 6th forms with good links, I am very surprised no consultation or discussion has taken place with other schools around the impact on provision. My school currently has over 100 students in each of year 12 and 13 studying Maths and this will undoubtedly impact on the recruitment of maths students.

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**Question 4 - Do you agree that the vision, ethos and curriculum for LUSoM meets the needs of stakeholders?**

A larger proportion of the respondents agreed that the vision, ethos and curriculum plan met the needs of the stakeholders with 57% agreeing, 33 % unsure and 10% disagreeing.

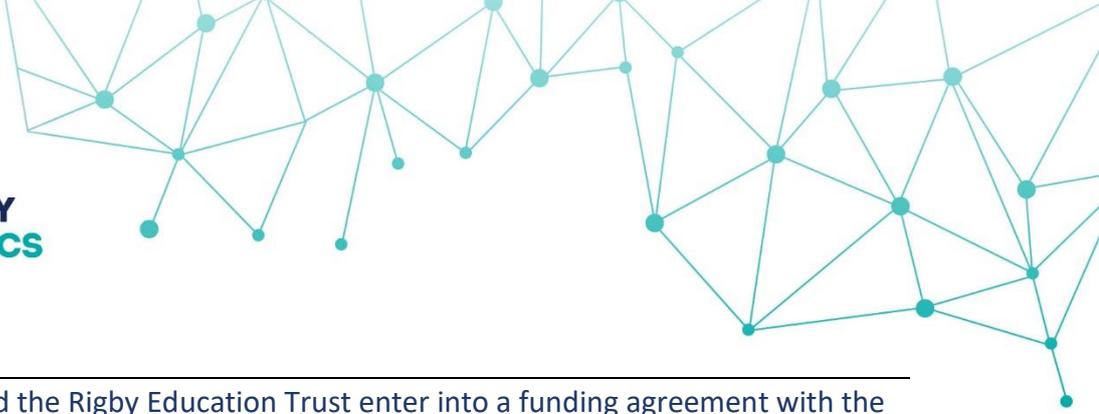


**Comments included by respondents that answered unsure:**

- It is a valid vision, ethos and curriculum, but it represents only repetition of that already provided by the existing colleges in the locality.
- There has been an avoidance of involvement and discussion with existing providers. It seems a very insular project.

**Comments included by respondents that answered yes:**

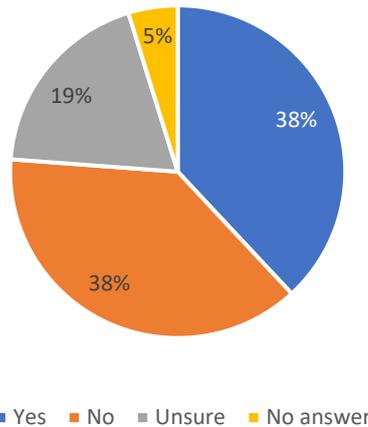
- Will it be to the detriment of others.



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**Question 5 - Should the Rigby Education Trust enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education in order to open LUSoM?**

As previously stated, the responses to the questionnaire were mixed. 38% of people agree that the Secretary of State should enter into a funding agreement with the Rigby Education Trust, and 38% disagreed.



Only comments from 'no' responses were received and these referred to the proposal being perceived as a replication of existing provision within the local areas than therefore, not needed.

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**Question 6 - If you are a student considering applying to LUSoM in the future, which of the following subjects are you most likely to select as a 3rd or 4th A-level choice?**

Two respondents answered this question, however, one identified themselves as a parent/carer, local resident and member of staff/governor at a local college, therefore this response was disregarded.

The second respondent that answered this question identified themselves as a parent/carer, local resident and other: Student. This respondent rated Computer Science, Physics and Chemistry equally likely to be taken as their additional A-level choice.

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**Question 7 - Any additional comments or questions you wish to make about Lancaster University School of Mathematics?**

Question 7 allowed the respondents to add any additional information, a summary of the comments are listed below:

- Excellent idea. Many SEND children will also benefit from such an education.



- Linking maths back to other subjects like Computer Science will be very positive.
- I would like to find out more about the plans - I would be happy to be part of the planning as well due to my experiences at Math School already, this is a really interesting new venture that I strongly support.
- It's a very exciting, timely project. I've been following the creation of the UK mathematics schools for some time and I think they are going to have a massive influence on STEM education in the UK.
- I think this proposal will distort the local A Level market. We have very strong A level providers throughout the county who deliver exceptional teaching in maths to large numbers so I don't see the need for such provision. The students who don't go there to study maths could see themselves as second class and not be as aspirational as a result.
- I encourage you to visit Runshaw College, to experience truly outstanding provision for the most able students of mathematics.
- There is good existing Maths, Science and Computer Science provision post-16 at a number of providers within the area proposed (Cardinal Newman, Runshaw College, Hutton Grammar School) so this does not seem to represent a good use of public funds.
- It is upsetting to see you are helping the most able to access these STEM courses when there are many disadvantaged students that would benefit more from your support. It is a shame since the students you are targeting will naturally have the support networks and you are taking away from those that need it the most.
- When will you be providing specialist schools for English, Art, etc?

## 5.2. Responses Via Email

Three responses were received via direct email:

- *Thank you for this email. As director for Education Services I have been appraised of this proposal and it does meet local need.*
- *Thank you for your email and the information contained within it. I wish you every success in this venture as I'm sure that it will offer many new opportunities for the young people of our area.*
- *Thank you for your correspondence regarding a new school which will be located within my Division. I have not received any concerns or objections from local residents regarding the school. I am therefore happy to support any initiative that seeks to further develop young people through education and learning, particularly encouraging talented students to excel in Mathematics. I only hope*



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*that the school administrators will make every effort to encourage, enrol, support and assist children from disadvantaged communities to have the same opportunity as those from more affluent areas.*



## 6. Responding to issues raised through the consultation.

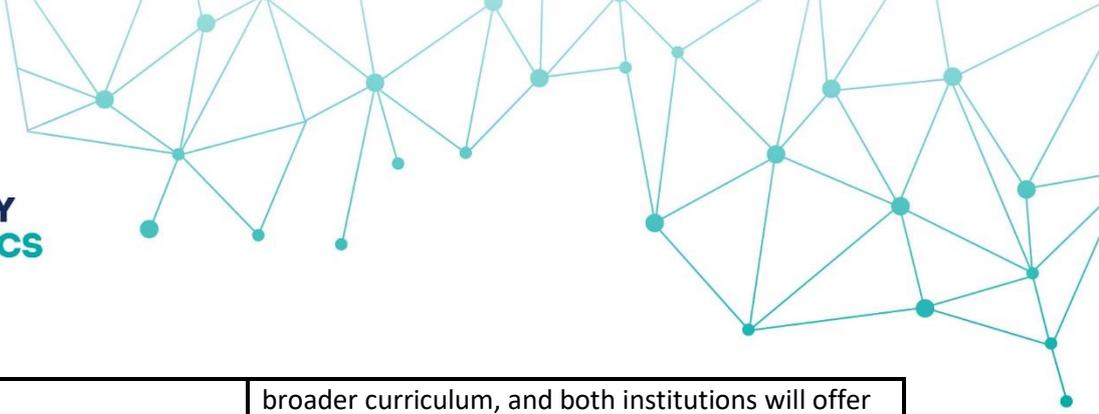
Questions and issues raised during the consultation were responded to directly during online Q&A sessions and were also posted onto the LUSoM website in a final report. Stakeholders were made aware of this process via the questionnaire, during the online Q&A sessions and within the information leaflet.

Questions that were submitted via the [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.ac.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.ac.uk) email account were responded to directly.

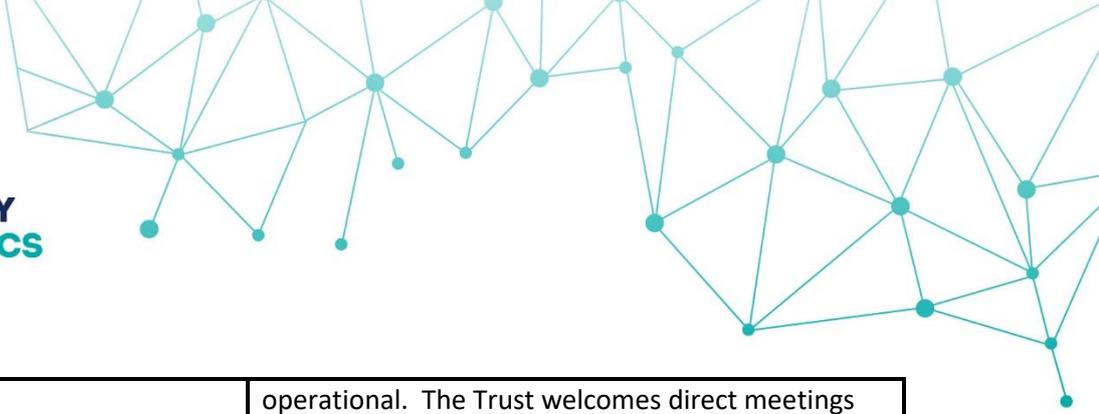
Further information was provided during the online Q&A sessions around the site, approaches to teaching and learning and the performance of other Maths Schools.

The table below indicates the questions asked and issues raised during the consultation sessions and via the questionnaire and how they were responded to.

Question/Issue	Answer Provided
<b>Will LUSoM be a totally standalone institution?</b>	Yes, the School will have its own dedicated teaching staff and pastoral care staff. It is a DfE requirement that Maths Schools are standalone institutions. Students will however be able to access and benefit from some of the A-level provisions and enrichment activities on offer at Cardinal Newman College if they wish.
<b>Will other HE institutions be able to work in partnership with the School?</b>	Yes, the School will look to work with a wide range of stakeholders, including local HEIs. It would be beneficial for LUSoM to be able to link with employers with whom other HE providers have established relationships. Discussions with UCLAN are underway to consider how they can best contribute to the School.
<b>Will the guaranteed offer from Lancaster University be not only for pure Maths degrees, but for any Maths related subject areas?</b>	Lancaster University has confirmed that other departments will be involved in working with LUSoM and that the guaranteed offer will apply to other degree courses.
<b>The presentation highlights the aim of LUSoM is to widen participation and increase capacity in maths provision. If a student wants to apply for general maths related A-level subjects, should they apply to LUSoM or Cardinal Newman College?</b>	LUSoM will provide a close-knit community for like-minded mathematicians where students, who although have the potential, may not have previously chosen to study maths. Students at LUSoM will be immersed within a mathematics environment where they feel at home. Maths students at Cardinal Newman College will study a



	broader curriculum, and both institutions will offer high quality, outstanding provision.
<b>Are LUSoM looking for letters of support?</b>	Letters of support would be welcomed if individuals felt that they wished to show their support for LUSoM.
<b>Can I join LUSoM in year 13?</b>	It would be unusual to join the school in year 13, but consideration will be given to this possibility once the school is open and at steady state. We will publish more details on this, in due course.
<b>There is already good post-16 provision in the area.</b>	The Trust and Project Partners agree that there are several outstanding post-16 providers in the region. This proposal will create a dedicated home for some mathematics students who wish to immerse themselves in a community of like-minded individuals and access undergraduate level content. The aim is to deliver an outreach programme that increases the total number of students studying Level 3 mathematics courses at all providers within the region.
<b>The proposal promotes elitist/exclusionary education</b>	The school will have an extensive outreach programme that will work with all schools and young people across a wide area. It will be focused on areas of disadvantage and those with less access to outstanding mathematics provision. Prospective applicants will be supported through the application process. The curriculum and student support is being designed to provide enhanced support to SEND learners and particularly those learners with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Many young people with ASD and high maths ability will benefit from the small and nurturing environment within LUSoM.
<b>When will you be providing specialist schools for English, Art, etc.?</b>	There are no plans for other specialist post-16 schools.
<b>There has been a lack of consultation with existing providers.</b>	Direct emails were sent to all secondary schools in Lancashire and Colleges in the wider catchment. A specific presentation to the Lancashire Association of Secondary Headteachers was undertaken. Press releases and a newspaper advert were published, and dedicated email addresses is

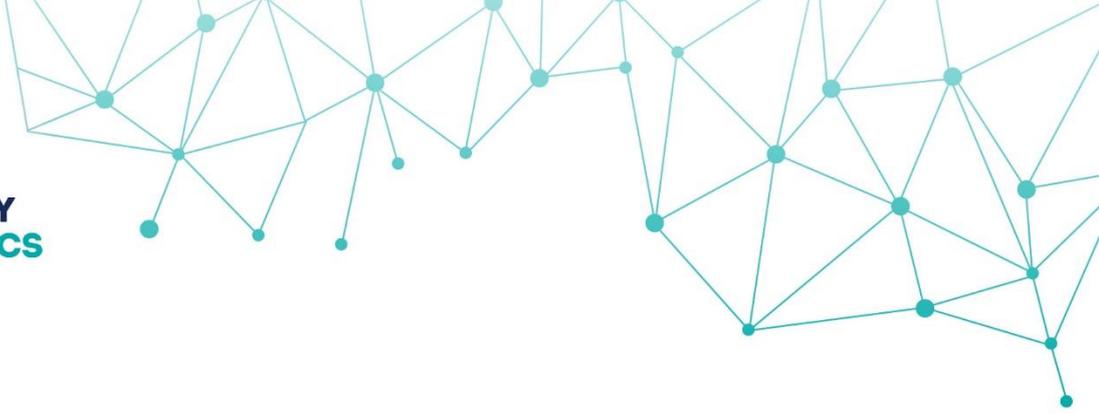


	operational. The Trust welcomes direct meetings and communication from existing providers and is happy to collaborate.
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### 6.1. Actions taken as a result of responses received.

As a result of the consultation process and responses received the following actions will be taken:

- Discussions have commenced with UCLAN to discuss how they can best contribute to the Maths School and benefit LUSoM students
- The LUSoM outreach programme will predominantly target students who are currently under-represented on advanced mathematics programmes and areas that are not well served with high quality Level 3 mathematics courses



## 7. Conclusion

The Rigby Education Trust has considered the responses received during this consultation process and is confident that Lancaster University School of Mathematics will provide a valuable contribution to the local area. The Trust is respectful of the views and concerns of members of staff/governors from neighbouring colleges. However, they feel that the focus on outreach programmes will raise achievement in mathematics at Key Stage 4 and increase the uptake of advanced mathematics at Key Stage 5 at all institutions within the region. Overall, the number post-16 learners within the region is projected to increase and the wide catchment area of the school will minimise impact on numbers at any individual institution. The experience of the early maths schools is that the new specialist institution increases the number of students undertaking level 3 mathematics courses at all institutions in an area, not just at the maths school. Exeter College, a partner of the Exeter Maths School, experienced growth in their Level 3 mathematics courses once the new maths school opened and continues to have thriving A-Level maths provision. LUSoM will provide a different environment from that already available in the region and will widen participation.

The Rigby Education Trust wishes to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education to establish the Lancaster University School of Mathematics and is confident in the success of the school.



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# **Appendix A**

**Consultation Postcard**



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A new Maths School, located in Preston, is proposed to open in September 2022. Lancaster University School of Mathematics (LUSoM) will be for students aged 16-19 years old and will host 260 students at full capacity. All students at LUSoM will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, alongside two other A-levels.

Students will also be able to study Physics, Computer Science, and Chemistry at A-level at LUSoM, alongside other level 3 courses, while at the same time undertaking a high-quality and inspiring enrichment programme.

The School will be a stand-alone institution but will have close connections with both Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University, as part of the Rigby Education Trust which will operate LUSoM.

# SECTION 10

As part of a formal consultation about LUSoM we would like to hear your views in the coming weeks, listen to your comments and act on feedback or suggestions given. The consultation is solely to consult with stakeholders on whether the Rigby Education Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State to open the School.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Please visit [www.lusom.ac.uk](http://www.lusom.ac.uk) or scan the QR code to access a consultation questionnaire.

A pdf version of the questionnaire is also available at [www.lusom.ac.uk](http://www.lusom.ac.uk).

**The Consultation period will run up until:  
29TH MARCH 2021**

**SCAN HERE**



## CONSULTATION

Online information and Q&A session are also being held via MS Teams for stakeholders and members of public on:

**Monday 22nd February - 5.30pm and 6.30pm**

**Saturday 27th February - 11.30am and 12.30pm**

**Monday 8th March - 5.30pm and 6.30pm**

**Saturday 13th March - 11.30am and 12.30pm**

For details of how to join these online sessions please email [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk)

Join us to learn more from the LUSoM Executive Principal and Lancaster University representatives.

**[www.lusom.ac.uk](http://www.lusom.ac.uk)**



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# **Appendix B**

**Consultation Leaflet**



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# **SECTION 10**

# **CONSULTATION**

## **INFORMATION LEAFLET**

**CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
COLLEGE**



## Introduction

A new Maths School, located in Preston, is proposed to open in September 2022. Lancaster University School of Mathematics (LUSoM) will be for students aged 16-19 years old and will host 260 students at full capacity.

All students at the School will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, alongside two other A-levels or equivalent. Students will also be able to study Physics, Computer Science and Chemistry at LUSoM, with other courses available through Cardinal Newman College. More information about the need for a Maths School can be found later in this document.

The School will be a stand-alone institution but will have close connections with both Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University, as part of the Rigby Education Trust which will operate LUSoM. LUSoM students will have access to a leading sixth form college and undergraduate content at a world-class university to help them successfully progress into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) degrees at the most selective universities. Students who attend and successfully complete their studies at LUSoM will be guaranteed an offer for nominated degree programmes at Lancaster University, provided they meet the entry requirements.

## The Consultation

The Rigby Education Trust, as the multi-academy trust opening the new Maths School, is required to hold a public consultation in accordance with Section 10 of the [Academies Act 2010](#).

The purpose of the consultation is to share information about Lancaster University School of Mathematics with stakeholders and members of the public and to seek opinions on whether or not the Rigby Education Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State to open the new Maths School.

The funding agreement is a contract which sets out the conditions under which the Rigby Education Trust will be funded by the Department for Education (DfE). The terms of the agreement will be finalised once the consultation has completed. A draft agreement can be viewed on the [DfE's website](#).

Please note that this consultation is not related to the future planning application for the LUSoM building. A separate consultation process on the future planning application will be undertaken in spring 2021.

The findings of the consultation will be summarised in a report and submitted to the DfE. The findings will help inform the Secretary of State for Education's decision as to whether to enter into a funding agreement with the Rigby Education Trust.

The consultation will run until Friday 29th March, 2021 at 4.00pm.

## Why does Lancashire need a Maths School for 16-19 year olds?

Maths is one of the most in-demand skills in the labour market and it is already the most popular subject at A-level, with almost 25% of students nationally choosing to study it.

Two Maths Schools – King’s College London and Exeter Mathematics School – are already achieving outstanding results. A third Maths School, the Liverpool University Maths School, opened in September 2020 and several more are in the pre-opening stages.

Lancaster University School of Mathematics will become a centre of excellence. By supporting local schools and colleges and sharing its specialist skills and expertise, it will help to raise standards and get more young people studying maths.

LUSoM will widen participation and encourage talented mathematicians from groups that are traditionally under-represented in studying maths at A-level and beyond. It will also be a unique provider of outstanding maths teaching for students wanting to surround themselves with a small close-knit community of like-minded peers.

LUSoM will offer a wide range of outreach activities to feeder schools, ranging from Lancaster University master classes and student mentoring, to teacher development networks and the sharing of online resources. Close partnership working with Lancashire County Council and the Abacus Maths Hub will help transform maths education across the region.

Due to a projected increase in the number of 16-19 students across Lancashire and the closure of some smaller A-level providers, demand for A-level provision and places across Lancashire is increasing. The School will work collaboratively with the two existing outstanding sixth form providers and others across Lancashire to meet this increase in demand.

The new School building will provide facilities which can be used by the local community out of school hours. The new facility will improve the environment and highway infrastructure around the School site and become part of an education quarter within the local area.

## About Lancaster University School of Mathematics

Lancaster University School of Mathematics will offer an A-level curriculum for 16-19-year-old students with an exceptional aptitude and passion for maths. The School is proposed to open in September 2022 with a Year 12 cohort and will admit up to 130 students into Year 12 each year.

Student numbers will continue to grow year on year, to reach up to 260 students across both year groups. The building will include carefully designed classrooms, science laboratories, independent learning spaces and significant investment in information and communication technology.

## The Executive Principal and Head of School

LUSoM will have an Executive Principal and a Head of School. The Executive Principal will be the existing Principal of Cardinal Newman College, Nick Burnham, who will provide a quality assurance and monitoring role on behalf of the Rigby Education Trust. Cardinal Newman College is one of the top performing sixth form colleges nationally and Nick has extensive experience of leading and developing outstanding provision. From his previous post of Vice Principal at another outstanding college, Carmel College in St Helen's, Nick is now in his ninth year as Principal of Cardinal Newman College and will bring significant leadership experience and expertise to the School.

The Head of School will be appointed closer to the opening date of the School, and it is anticipated that this individual will be a strong leader in the field of mathematics with experience of working with outstanding providers such as Lancaster University and Cardinal Newman College to develop high quality maths provision within the School and across Lancashire.

## Curriculum Offer

All students will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics which will be delivered by specialist teaching staff with core teaching being delivered in larger groups of typically around 30 students.

Students will be clustered into smaller groups for additional revision, research and independent guided learning. Most students will be able to study Physics, Computer Science and Chemistry as additional A-levels at LUSoM or any other courses offered by Cardinal Newman College. This will provide students with a seamless learning experience and a wide range of options for the minority of students who wish to complement their maths studies with non-STEM subjects.

The LUSoM Award, unique to LUSoM, will form an essential part in preparing students for university study. This will be an academic programme developed by university academics in consultation with LUSoM staff and will be recognised as a qualification of high prestige, setting the School's students apart.

Students' ability to work independently and in small groups, meet deadlines and sustain effort will all be developed and tested throughout the course, and prizes will be awarded on graduation. Student presentation skills will also be developed through giving capstone presentations to Lancaster University academics, business sponsors and other experts.

## Beyond the Curriculum

Achievement Tutors will support students during their studies at LUSoM. All students will have a one hour pastoral/values tutorial per week and teaching staff will be timetabled to provide one hour of Curriculum Plus support for all students. These additional sessions are tailored to the individual's needs and support them to achieve their full potential. This personal approach will assist students in mastering and acquiring a deep understanding of the subject content.

All students will be encouraged to participate fully in student life and will be able to access facilities and enrichment activities at the School and at Cardinal Newman College. This includes sports academies, arts clubs, dance/music/film academies and the Student Union. Student mentors from Lancaster University and other partners will also support students during their time at the School.

## Location

Lancaster University School of Mathematics will be located on a prominent site on London Road in Preston, readily accessible with excellent transport links and discounted travel passes from locations within the surrounding districts.



## Vision and Values

Lancaster University School of Mathematics will deliver outstanding maths and advanced level education to the most able students in Lancashire and the North-West of England. Our vision is to provide an environment where an increasing number of world class mathematicians thrive and continue to contribute, through maths, to the productivity of the UK economy and beyond.

Our mission is to enable the most able mathematicians from all backgrounds to realise their potential by enabling the most able mathematicians from all backgrounds to realise their potential within an inspiring, inclusive, and supportive learning community.

We will aim to offer able young people within the surrounding areas access to world-class preparation for entry into mathematics-based university education. We will aim to accelerate student learning by integrating

undergraduate A-level work into the student learning experience while embedding a research culture and creating enthusiasm for maths and science.

Our teaching and learning strategy will be based on excellent teaching, outstanding pastoral support, and intensive curriculum support for all students to enable them to reach their full potential. The School will have high expectations and empower all learners to succeed.

## Admissions

The full admissions policy, including details of the School's over subscription criteria, is available on the Lancaster University School of Mathematics website.

Lancaster University School of Mathematics will select students based on merit with students required to meet stated entry requirements at GCSE. An extensive outreach and support programme will be available to support prospective students applying for the School. We welcome applications and interest from all students sitting higher tier GCSE papers.

General entry requirements:

1. Grade 8 or above in GCSE Maths
2. Grade 7 or above in GCSE Physics or Chemistry with Grade 7-7 or above in GCSE Combined Science
3. Grade 5 or above in GCSE English (Language or Literature)

As part of the admissions process the applicants will undertake an aptitude test, which is designed to ensure applicants benefit from LUSoM's environment, followed by an interview at the School. The School will ensure that the application process is fair and free from discrimination. All prospective students with additional needs or Education and Healthcare Plans will be supported by specialist staff through the application process to ensure all reasonable adjustments are made and the process is transparent.

## Next Steps

We would like to seek your views on Lancaster University School of Mathematics through the completion of a short survey. The survey can be completed and submitted online or you can download a Word version from our website [www.lusom.ac.uk](http://www.lusom.ac.uk) to complete and return via email to [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk) or by post to the project managers for the School: Flinders Chase, Suite 116-117, Cotton Exchange, Bixeth Street, Liverpool L3 9LQ.

To learn more from the Executive Principal and Lancaster University representatives, we will be holding a 40 minute online information and Q&A session via MS Teams for stakeholders and members of public on:

**Monday 22nd February 5.30pm and 6.30pm**  
**Saturday 27th February 11.30am and 12.30pm**  
**Monday 8th March 5.30pm and 6.30pm**  
**Saturday 13th March 11.30am - 12.30pm**

To register to join one of the consultation Q&A sessions email: [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk) and state the session you wish to attend.



**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

# **Appendix C**

Consultation Questionnaire

## Lancaster University School of Mathematics – Section 10 Consultation

The Rigby Education Trust is pleased to announce that Lancaster University School of Mathematics (LUSoM) has advanced to its pre-opening phase. During this phase, the academy trust is required to undertake a Section 10 Consultation (under the Academies Act 2010) in which stakeholders and the local community can express their interest, concerns and comments towards the School and its impact within the community.

LUSoM will be located on London Road, Preston, close to Cardinal Newman College and is proposed to open in September 2022. The School will be open to students aged 16-19 years old and will host 260 students at full capacity. All students at the School will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, alongside one or two other A-levels which could include Physics, Computer Science or Chemistry, or any other Level 3 course at Cardinal Newman College. LUSoM students will have access to a leading sixth form college and undergraduate content at a world-class university to help them successfully progress into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) degrees at the most selective universities. Successful LUSoM students are guaranteed offers for selected degree programmes at Lancaster University.

This questionnaire is an important step in the consultation, allowing stakeholders and the local community to provide feedback on the School, whether it be in favour or to express their concerns. The consultation process will allow the Rigby Education Trust to respond to any feedback provided.

The formal consultation process will run up until March 29<sup>th</sup> 2021. A separate consultation process on the future planning application for the new building for the School is planned to be undertaken in Spring 2021. This consultation is solely to consult stakeholders on whether the Rigby Education Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State to open the School.

An information leaflet with more information about the School and a questionnaire can be found on the LUSoM website: [www.LUSOM.ac.uk](http://www.LUSOM.ac.uk). This questionnaire needs to be submitted by 29/03/21.

An online version of the questionnaire can also be found using this link:



A full consultation report will be shown on the LUSoM website. If you do have any questions you wish to have answered directly please email us at [lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk](mailto:lusom.consultation@flinderschase.co.uk).

If you wish to return your consultation response by post please send your completed questionnaire to the project managers for LUSoM: Flinders Chase, Suite 116-117, Cotton Exchange, Bixeth Street, Liverpool, L3 9LQ.

**1. What description best describes you? (Multiple options may be ticked)**

- Parent/Carer
- Local Resident
- Member of Staff / Governor at a Primary School
- Member of Staff / Governor at a Secondary School
- Member of Staff / Governor at a College
- Business Owner
- Local Authority Employee
- Potential LUSoM Student
- Other Please Specify .....

**2. Where do you live in relation to the proposed site?**

- Within 1 Mile
- Within 3 Miles
- Within 10 Mile
- Further than 10 Miles

**3. Do you agree that opening the proposed School will provide an important extra choice for parents and young people?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any additional information you would like to add?

**4. Do you agree that the vision, ethos and curriculum for LUSoM meets the needs of stakeholders?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any additional information you would like to add?



**5. Should the Rigby Education Trust enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education in order to open LUSoM?**

The funding agreement is a legal contract which sets out the funding arrangements for the School, as well as requirements from the government regarding admissions, the obligations of both parties and termination of agreement policies. Once the funding agreement is signed it obliges the Academy Trust to open and run the new academy and it obliges the Secretary of State to provide the revenue funding to operate the academy year on year.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Any additional information you would like to add?

**6. If you are a student considering applying to LUSoM in the future, which of the following subjects are you most likely to select as a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> A-level choice? (please put in rank order, with 1 being highest)**

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Computer Science
- Other Please Specify .....

**7. Any additional comments or questions you wish to make about Lancaster University School of Mathematics?**





**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

# **Appendix D**

**Consultation Presentation**



**LANCASTER UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS**

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF  
MATHEMATICS

*Section 10 Consultation*

**CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
COLLEGE**

Lancaster  
University 

# WELCOME



Lancaster School of Mathematics, (LUSoM) opening in September 2022, is for students aged 16-19 specialising in advanced Mathematics.



The School will be located on London Road, Preston with a total capacity of 260 across Year 12 and 13.



The School, run by the Rigby Education Trust, will work in close partnership with both Cardinal Newman College and Lancaster University.



Students who attend and successfully complete their studies at LUSoM will be guaranteed an offer for nominated degree programmes at Lancaster University, provided they meet the entry requirements.

## WHAT IS A SECTION 10 CONSULTATION AND FUNDING AGREEMENT?

- Undertaken to meet the requirements of the Academies Act 2010.
- To ask the question to stakeholders “*Should the Secretary of State (SOS) for Education enter into a funding agreement with the Trust?*”
- The funding agreement is the legal agreement to operate the School.
- To seek and respond to the views and opinions of all stakeholders in relation to the School.

Consultation responses will be received until 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021, all responses will be reviewed and responses prepared. A report will be submitted to the Department for Education for the SoS to consider whether to enter into the Funding Agreement.

# OVERVIEW



**Vision & Aims:** to provide an environment where an increasing number of world class Mathematicians from all backgrounds can thrive and contribute, through Mathematics, to the productivity of the UK economy and beyond.



**Curriculum:** all students will study A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics and up to two additional A-levels **plus** the LUSoM Award.



**Subjects:** students can study Physics, Chemistry and/or Computer Science at the School or access additional A-levels at Cardinal Newman College.



**Outreach:** to widen participation and encourage talented Mathematicians from groups that are traditionally under-represented to studying level 3 mathematics.

## TEACHING STAFF

- The recruitment process will start in the 2021-2022 academic year with most staff being employed by the Rigby Education Trust.
- The Principal of Cardinal Newman College will be the Executive Principal of LUSoM.
- The Head of the School will be appointed in spring of 2022.

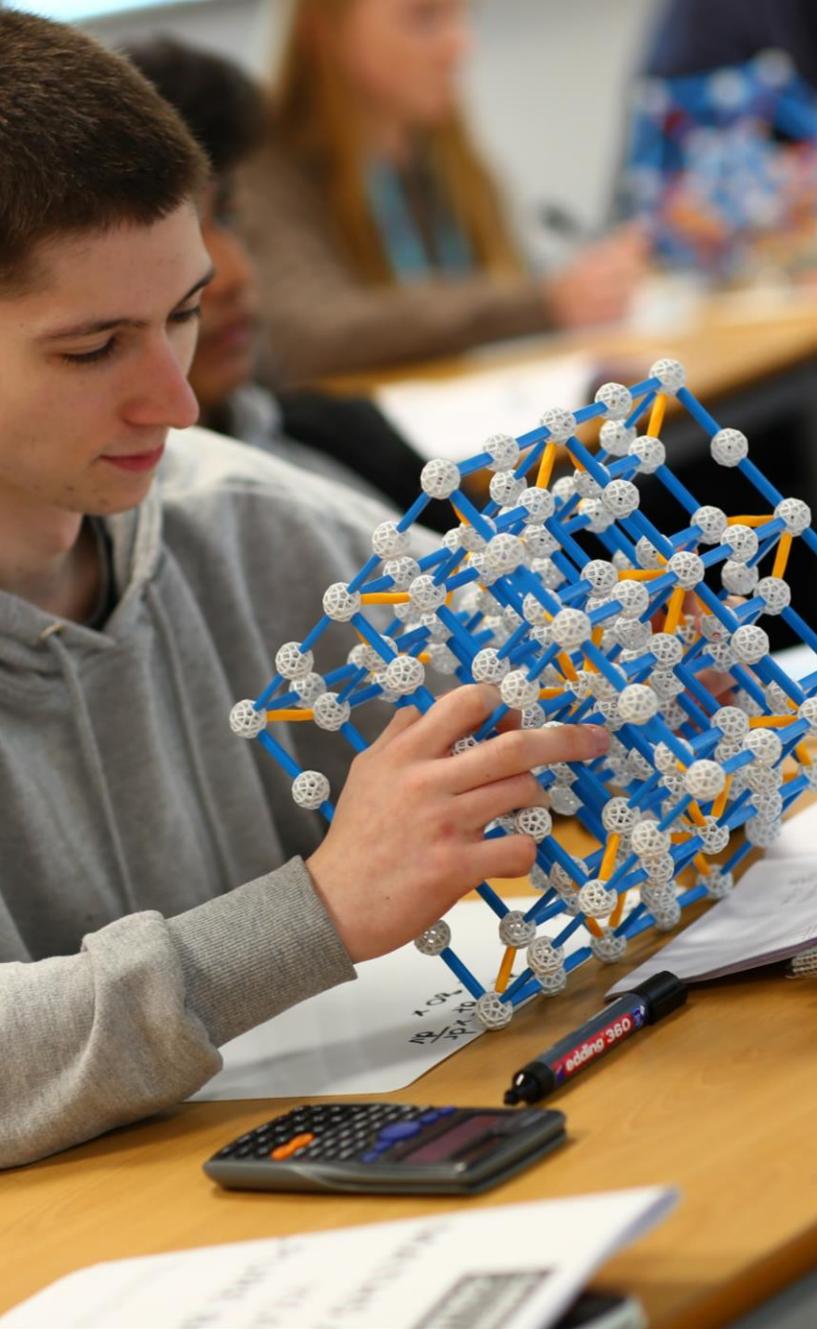


- LUSoM will work with schools, colleges, the Maths Hub and local authorities to raise achievement and encourage a greater number of students to study advanced level Mathematics.
- Cardinal Newman College will continue to provide Further Mathematics independently and it is anticipated that overall student numbers studying maths subjects at all post-16 providers will rise.

## COLLABORATION

# EXAMPLE TIMETABLE

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9AM - 10.10AM	PASTORAL SUPPORT	FURTHER MATHS	A-LEVEL OPTION	FURTHER MATHS	A-LEVEL OPTION
10.15AM - 11.25AM	MATHS	A-LEVEL OPTION	FURTHER MATHS		MATHS
11.25AM - 11.40AM	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
11.40AM - 12.50PM		MATHS	CURRICULUM PLUS	A-LEVEL OPTION	
12.55PM - 2.05PM	A-LEVEL OPTION			MATHS	A-LEVEL OPTION
2.05PM - 2.20PM	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
2.20PM - 3.30PM	A-LEVEL OPTION	A-LEVEL OPTION	HE*	HE*	FURTHER MATHS



## MATHS SCHOOLS



Mathematics is one of the most in-demand skills in the labour market.



The Government is determined, through its Industrial Strategy, to increase the number of young people studying mathematics, helping them to secure good jobs and boosting the UK economy.



Maths Schools are a central government initiative and all geographical regions will be served by one.

# WHY WOULD LANCASHIRE BENEFIT FROM A MATHS SCHOOL?



LUSoM will provide exceptional specialist teaching, a high-quality learning environment and resources with undergraduate-level content.



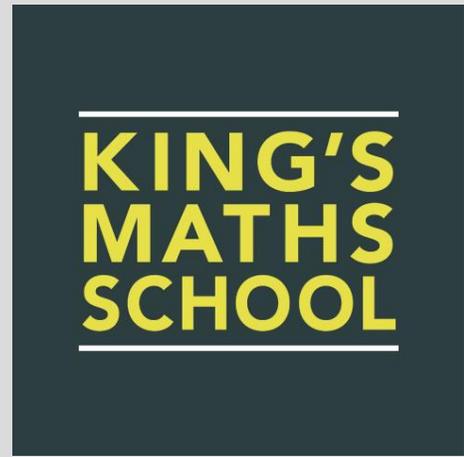
LUSoM will work with the Abacus North-West Maths Hub and Lancashire County Council to promote the study of Mathematics to all young people.



LUSoM will help promote the study of Further Maths in all local institutions for students from backgrounds which are typically under-represented within STEM.

## THE SUCCESS OF OTHER MATHS SCHOOLS

- There are three open maths schools with several in the pre-opening stages:
  - Kings Maths School opened in 2014;
  - Exeter Maths School opened in 2014;
  - Liverpool Maths School opened in 2020.
- Kings and Exeter Maths schools have gained outstanding results, both being rated Outstanding by OFSTED.
- As well as being part of a national network of maths schools LUSoM will support the work of National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM), the North-West Abacus Maths Hub and Lancashire County Council.



# ADMISSIONS PROCESS

All students sitting the higher tier Maths paper at GCSE, and are interested in attending LUSoM, will be encouraged to apply.

An extensive outreach and support programme will support applicants through the process to achieve their goals.

## The minimum entry requirements:

- ✓ Grade 8 or above in GCSE Maths;
- ✓ Grade 7 or above in GCSE Physics or Chemistry with Grade 7 or above in GCSE combined Science;
- ✓ Grade 5 or above in GCSE English (Language or Literature)

As part of the admissions process the applicants will undertake an aptitude test followed by an interview at the School.

Applications open – September 2021  
Applications close – December 2021  
Conditional offers – March 2022



LANCASTER  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF  
MATHEMATICS  
LOCATION



LANCASTER UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS