

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| Number of responses | Identifying number | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----|----|--------|-------|-----------------|----------|----------------|--|
| | | Yes | No | Parent | Carer | Wider Community | Catholic | Not a Catholic | |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 4 | 4 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | I think it will benefit both the catholic community and the boys to go mixed |
| 5 | 5 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 6 | 6 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 7 | 7 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 8 | 8 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| 9 | 9 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 10 | 10 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 11 | 11 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | I feel going co-ed won't aid the **** dept but can see it would benefit the school |
| 12 | 12 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 13 | 13 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 14 | 14 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | I'm a fan of mixed education |
| 15 | 15 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 16 | 16 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | |
| 17 | 17 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I would like to send my daughters and sons to the same catholic secondary school, denied to me at the moment by the current system |
| 18 | 18 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| 19 | 19 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 20 | 20 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 21 | 21 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 22 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | Go for it! |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|----|----|----|---|----|--|----|---|--|
| 23 | 23 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 24 | 24 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 25 | 25 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 26 | 26 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I'm very happy that you are considering this issue. While keeping in mind the issues (advantages) of single sex classes for some subjects that could benefit both boys and girls, depending on the subject being taught and the cohort of students in that year. |
| 27 | 27 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I would welcome the opportunity to send my son and daughter to the same catholic secondary school. I would also like them to be able to attend the same school as their classmates (both boys and girls) |
| 28 | 28 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 29 | 29 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | As parents of 3 boys this is what I have been waiting for! |
| 30 | 30 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 31 | 31 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I feel strongly that it is important for girls and boys to make the transition from primary to secondary to assist with their social skills. |
| 32 | 32 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Very impressed with the level of planning and the work that has already gone in to the proposal. A very exciting prospect for our family as we thought we would have no choice but to send our children to different secondary schools. We look forward to a positive outcome for catholic families with a yes for a mixed St George. |
| 33 | 33 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think it would be a marvellous future for the school. I would very much support the decision to make the school a co-ed! I moved my children to Springhill, in order that they had a faith education and attended the same school. I would therefore like to continue this into their secondary school. Good luck, 100% support from me!! |
| 34 | 34 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 35 | 35 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | My son is currently in year 10 at Saint George and we have been delighted with the education he has received so far and the continuous improvement at the school. When choosing secondary schools for him we had reservations regarding Saint George. On the whole, neither my wife nor I really wanted our son at a single sex school, however we were keen for him to remain in Catholic education. My daughter is in year 4 at St Anthony's. We are even less keen on single sex education for girls and for that reason we have reservations regarding St Anne's despite its excellent results. I know of a number of other parents of year 4 girls who feel the same. If Saint George were co-educational we would certainly consider it very seriously for my daughter. |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|----|----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | I wish you luck with this exciting project! |
| 36 | 36 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 37 | 37 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | As you know ***** attends St George. Many parents from St Patrick's and my local church Christ the King Bitterne have daughters. As St George is doing so well they feel that it would be more beneficial to also send their daughters here and obtain the same opportunities as their sons! |
| 38 | 38 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I don't want St George to increase in size. |
| 39 | 39 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I am planning to admit my son next year and would be very happy to see St George admitting girls in the near future. In 4 years time my daughter starts secondary school and I would prefer to send her to the new mixed St George rather than St Anne's as originally planned. Our family belongs to the St Margaret's Parish in Park Gate, as a supporting Catholic family we support St George admitting girls in 2013. |
| 40 | 40 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 41 | 41 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 42 | 42 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 43 | 43 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | It is well known that mixed schools have boys with higher grades as more challenged by more motivated female fellows |
| 44 | 44 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | I have two children at Holy Family a boy and a girl. I am intending to send my girl to St Anne's due to the fact it is a catholic school and single sex. I was intending to send my boy to your school for the same reasons. St Georges is the ONLY all boy school in our area and I can confirm that if it goes co-ed I would then pay to send him to a private school instead. I would do the same for my daughter if St Anne's went co-ed for GCSE age. Unless you are planning to increase the number of children going to your school making it co-ed would mean less boys being able to attend the only "boys" catholic school in Southampton. St Anne's does not allow boys in the secondary school so a lot of boys would be left with no catholic school to attend. This is not fair on the boys who would be coming to St Georges, such as my son. You have a great school and the reason parents send their children there is because it is a catholic all boys' school. If they wanted girls education for their child they would send them to St Anne's? |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|----|----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 45 | 45 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I think boys should stay with boys and girls with girls until they are a bit more mature (at sixth form) |
| 46 | 46 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | We have two boys who attend Sarisbury Junior School (currently in Year 5 and 3), and as a family, we are active members of the St Margaret Mary Parish in Park Gate. We are currently looking for a suitable secondary school setting, and both boys have expressed a strong objection to attend a single-sex school. Equally, my husband and I feel it would be more beneficial for our children to attend a co-educational school. Should Saint George's decide to change its status to co-ed, and depending on its academic achievements, we would seriously consider applying for a school place for our children. |
| 47 | 47 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I am a parent of one boy and one girl (aged 3 and 5) and am looking for a secondary school they could both attend. |
| 48 | 48 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | I fully support the proposal to become a Co-Ed Catholic Secondary School in Southampton – something that the area has been lacking for many years now (speaking as an old St Anne's pupil myself). I see it as a very positive move and the only way forward to sustain a Catholic Secondary School in the City, in the long term. Perhaps in time, the College could extend for a sixth form too? I currently have boys in Yr 6 & Yr 5 and a girl in Yr 4 and it would definitely be my choice for all three of them if this move is allowed, as currently the only other option for the mixed Catholic School that our family would prefer, is Oaklands - and that is not a natural catchment for our area and transport would prove challenging. Catholic education is extremely important to us; something we support in many ways already and something that I wish for us to preserve for the future and this, in my opinion, is the only way to do this in Southampton. |
| 49 | 49 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I believe being any all boys' school makes St George specialize and teach in ways that suit the ways boys learn and it avoids the 'distraction' of having girls around. I think there is evidence that boys try harder when taught separately rather than letting girls do all the work! |
| 50 | 50 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | As parents of 3 boys we feel a mixed school gives a more realistic environment for our children to develop within. It encourages social interaction and inclusion and feel it helps to improve overall academic performance. |
| 51 | 51 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 52 | 52 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|----|----|----|---|----|--|---|----|---|---|
| 53 | 53 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I think it will be good for people to have a mixed catholic school to send their children to. The friendship they have at primary school would then continue into secondary school. |
| 54 | 54 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | I have twin boys aged 7 who currently go to Springhill RC School. I was hesitant in sending them to St Georges knowing that it was a single sex school but if it were to become mixed, I would have every intention of sending them to St Georges. |
| 55 | 55 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | Not only would I like to send my son to a boys school I would like him to experience the closeness of this family school |
| 56 | 56 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 57 | 57 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 58 | 58 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 59 | 59 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1. Would be helpful to have more concrete information on how proposal would be implemented and max. size of school, management of mixed teaching during interim period with all years co-ed 2. Admissions policy review for non-baptised Catholics losing choice even if they had been at catholic primary schools |
| 60 | 60 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 61 | 61 | 1 | | | | 1 | | | Generally in favour, only reservation is sport – if we reduce the number of boys will sport suffer? On the whole though a good idea. |
| 62 | 62 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I believe this to be a very positive proposition and hope it goes ahead. Children are encouraged from birth to mix with their peers and segregation does not come into the equation. So why should it be any different in their secondary years? |
| 63 | 63 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | Although I am a great believer in Co-Ed Schools and sent my eldest son to Hamble Community College in September 2000 because of this. I do feel that from reading your 'shaping the future' information booklet, that nowhere are you detailing any answers to any problems which could arise from the initial changeover. Nowhere are my concerns or worries taken into consideration. Nowhere re the concerns of all your existing parents acknowledged either? It's all being put forward as a very nice and positive 'this is the way forward' etc kind of way. How many female staff do you have? Will staff be made redundant and replaced by female staff? Will existing staff be re-trained for the influx of girls? I am not suggesting girls are alien to your teaching staff by any means, but I must assume that some of your more 'senior' male members of staff may have taught only boys for many, many years. With all things considered sorry, but |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|----|----|----|---|----|---|---|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | I have to say that with my daughter due to start her secondary education in Sept 2013, I would not consider St George for her to be subjected to being the trial year, or a guinea pig year, for girls to follow in her footsteps. Along with the inexperience of handling a curriculum suited to girls, I would feel very uncomfortable having my little girl in Year 7 and four whole year groups of only boys above. So we will be looking at Co-educational secondary schools already established within Southampton. |
| 64 | 64 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 65 | 65 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | I am pleased to hear that St George may become co-ed. As a catholic parent to a young child I would be thrilled to be able to keep my daughter in a catholic school which isn't single sex |
| 66 | 66 | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 67 | 67 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 68 | 68 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 69 | 69 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 70 | 70 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 71 | 71 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 72 | 72 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 73 | 73 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 74 | 74 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 75 | 75 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 76 | 76 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 77 | 77 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 78 | 78 | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 79 | 79 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 80 | 80 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 81 | 81 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | We chose St George because the fact it is an all boys' school, and feel that they are better off without the distraction than girls can bring. |
| 82 | 82 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 83 | 83 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 84 | 84 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 85 | 85 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I feel that by changing St George to a mixed school it would change the excellent teaching and care you provide for the boys. Having looked around several schools before choosing St George, I liked the feel and the information I was given about the boys' curriculum and the environment in which boys are taught. My son has thrived since being at St George, his confidence has grown and he is willing to try new experiences. I believe that some of this is down to St George being a single sex school. |
| 86 | 86 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 87 | 87 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 88 | 88 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 89 | 89 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 90 | 90 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I believe that if St George were to become a mixed school for both boys and girls it would cause a higher level of both bad behaviour and distraction. I believe this because as we all know, as we get older and hormones develop and start to change both boys and girls feel the need to impress one another and that could cause conflict amongst them. This is the reason I chose St George as my 1 st choice of secondary school for my son as it was not a mixed school. |
| 91 | 91 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 92 | 92 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 93 | 93 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think this an idea that needs to be considered, as long as the classes are kept small so the children are able to have the attention they need. This is also a good way to gain social skills, interact with male and female company and how to respect each other. |
| 94 | 94 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 95 | 95 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 96 | 96 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 97 | 97 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 98 | 98 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 99 | 99 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 100 | 100 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 101 | 101 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 102 | 102 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|---|----|---|--|
| 103 | 103 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 104 | 104 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | You have worked really hard to improve the school over the past few years. It is now desirable for several reasons 1. Small numbers of boys, giving a more personal feel 2. Boys only. No girls to distract! 3. Improved academic results. Introducing girls will give a whole new dimension to the school, one which I do not believe will be positive. |
| 105 | 105 | 1 | | | | | | 1 | I have a daughter who is currently in Year 5 and would love her to attend St George to receive the education my two boys have. |
| 106 | 106 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | I think the school is doing well by itself and probably do better without the mix. My child has only just started so I'm not in any position to say otherwise but I really think if parents want their children to go to a mixed school then they can send them to mixed school as there are many available. |
| 107 | 107 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 108 | 108 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | Bringing girls can increase the percentage of results high |
| 109 | 109 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 110 | 110 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 111 | 111 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 112 | 112 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | I think it is important to have a choice and there are already plenty of mixed schools. |
| 113 | 113 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 114 | 114 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 115 | 115 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 116 | 116 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | Going co-ed would give parents with sons and daughters another option other than single sex schools |
| 117 | 117 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | Healthier for boys and girls to share the ups and downs of school life; get used to each other! More balanced way of life. |
| 118 | 118 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 119 | 119 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|---|----|---|---|
| 120 | 120 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I must confess that while I would support a proposal to admit girls, I am worried how this might impact on St Anne's and the relationship between the 2 schools. I would much prefer a much closer relationship, confederation etc... in an inclusive and mutual relationship of respect and cooperation. I realise this is not on the agenda at present. Hopefully opening the door to girls at St George might bring something new to Catholic education in Southampton and ultimately and possibly enhance the relationship between the 2 schools. |
| 121 | 121 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 122 | 122 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | I was Head Boy at St George in 1979. I believe strongly that single sex education doesn't prepare children adequately for adult life. On another matter, when are the brothers at St Mary's going to agree to merge with St George? |
| 123 | 123 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | My two sons attended St George in the late 80s and 90s and while both of them had a very positive experience both educationally and in terms of relationships, they both felt that they would have benefited by the experience of a mixed sex school. |
| 124 | 124 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I am delighted to see the prospect of having this wonderful school and its fantastic facilities available for catholic girls as I have a catholic daughter. I look forward to applying. |
| 125 | 125 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 126 | 126 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 127 | 127 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 128 | 128 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 129 | 129 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 130 | 130 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 131 | 131 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 132 | 132 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 133 | 133 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 134 | 134 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 135 | 135 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 136 | 136 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 137 | 137 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 138 | 138 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 139 | 139 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 140 | 140 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 141 | 141 | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| 142 | 142 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I am opposed to St George becoming a mixed school due to the lack of same sex schools in Southampton. My son attended a mixed school for 2 years before moving to St George in June this year. I can only form an opinion based on his experience at the time and he is much happier now he is at a same sex school. |
| 143 | 143 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Whilst this decision does not affect me/my son personally, it would be strength to 'boys' in Southampton to have the chance to attend a "high achieving" boys school in future years. If the result and values continue to be achieved, the ethos of education "boys only" and understanding what makes "boys" tick would surely attract higher numbers and more interest to the school. My son enjoys it however it would be fair to say he loved his primary school and that was mixed. |
| 144 | 144 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 145 | 145 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I like St George as a boys' school. It really helps our boys to grow up without socializing with girls e.g. not having girlfriends before time. And all the members of the school boards are really helpful for our boys. |
| 146 | 146 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 147 | 147 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 148 | 148 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 149 | 149 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I am in full support for St George to be a school for both boys and girls. This mix affords the opportunity for both genders to see each other as partners of building a more progressive an inclusive society irrespective of one's gender and background. This will mean an introduction and implementation of a co-educational curriculum, which is imperative for an extensive skills base. Once more, girls and boys will learn virtues such as patience, understanding, fair play and love. |
| 150 | 150 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 151 | 151 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 152 | 152 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | If the school was built for boys so it should be kept for boys. Also we need to support the boys here as well. I was proud that my boys go to catholic boys school because of respect to religions and respect. Please keep boys school as boys school. |
| 153 | 153 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 154 | 154 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 155 | 155 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 156 | 156 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 157 | 157 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | <p>1. Given the possibility of caps on proportions of pupils in faith schools the number of places for catholic boys might be lower than the current number of catholic boys attending the school</p> <p>2. It will reduce the number of places available to other boys whose parents want them to attend a Christian school</p> <p>3. There will be longer any single sex option for boys in Southampton</p> <p>4. It will reduce the number of boys' places at a time when the number of boys in Southampton schools is increasing</p> <p>5. It risks damaging this boy friendly curriculum and atmosphere at the school</p> <p>6. As the word gets around about the improvements that the school has made and the schools reputation improves the number of catholic (and other Christian) boys attending the school is likely to rise without it needing to become co-ed.</p> |
| 158 | 158 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | <p>I think it is a bad idea because</p> <p>1. St George has the highest achieving boys statistics in Southampton and this may be affected by girls joining the school</p> <p>2. It will reduce the number of available boys places in secondary schools across Southampton, especially at a time where the number of boys in increasing</p> <p>3. The number of available Catholic boys places will be halved</p> <p>4. The school will be unable to present the curriculum in a boy friendly manner</p> <p>5. As the school has improved over the last 4 years its demand has increased and now has a waiting list this year for Year 7</p> |
| 159 | 159 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 160 | 160 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | <p>The change to co-ed will come too late for our family, but I would like to add my support to this proposal.</p> <p>Catholic girls and boys of Southampton have been poorly served by not having access to a mixed Catholic secondary school; girls in particular, do not have access to a diocesan school, and I believe that their opportunities for religious formation have been lacking as a result of this.</p> <p>I warmly welcome this proposal, and hope that the Governors of St George will diligently look at all the research into mixed education, in order to provide the best</p> |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | possible education for all the children. There are many approaches to providing a mixed education, and I would hope that the school would use a good evidence base in making its decisions. |
| 161 | 161 | | 1 | | | 1 | | <p>Dear Mr Wilson,</p> <p>I understand that you are proposing to admit girls into year 7 in 2013 and would like feedback.</p> <p>I am quite familiar with the school as two of my grandsons went there, my daughter does supply work for you and I am an Invigilator for you.</p> <p>My honest opinion is that it would be totally wrong to admit girls. Firstly, I don't think the school building and layout is suitable for a mixed school, there would have to be quite a few changes, not least cloakrooms and toilets etc. Secondly, a boy's education differs from the requirements of girls, although there are quite a few subjects that cater for both. Thirdly it has been proven that both boys and girls do better in single sex schools, bearing in mind that they are going through puberty and are easily distracted by the opposite sex, boys especially.</p> <p>Would the girls be potential pupils for St Anne's or from the local catchment area? Are you doing this because you think you don't have enough pupils? I believe that this year you have a full year 7 with a waiting list. If this is so then you definitely don't need girls.</p> <p>I sincerely hope that you reconsider and keep the status quo</p> <p>Yours sincerely [Name provided but not published here]</p> |
| 162 | 162 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 163 | 163 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | <p>Having two children are in co-ed I can see major benefits for retaining St George as a boys school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration • Focus • Communication • Discipline |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 164 | 164 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I feel that it is important that Southampton has single sex schools as an option. This allows both boys and girls to develop and flourish without the anxiety of getting the approval the opposite sex. If St George were a co-ed school I would not have chosen it to educate my son. There are positive female role models in the staff and my son can have female friends out of school. Changing to a co-ed will have a negative effect on a very positive school – in my opinion. |
| 165 | 165 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 166 | 166 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 167 | 167 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 168 | 168 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 169 | 169 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | As a parent of a boy and girl I would like them to continue their education together. |
| 170 | 170 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 171 | 171 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I would value the opportunity to have a catholic co-ed secondary school option for my children (both girls). How the transition is managed will be of great interest to me as obviously would not want any ‘teething’ or transitional/integration problems to have any detrimental impact on my child’s education. If I were a parent of a daughter in the proposed 2013 intake I would be concerned if there were very few girls in the year group and school = vulnerability and mixing with older boys/interest and attention from older boys. If I were a parent of a son in the upper years of any year and had chosen a single sex education for my son(s) I may not be in favour of change – how will this be managed? In terms of offering a catholic/family mixed secondary school option locally, I am in support of the proposal. Hopefully more children who have been at primary school together (mixed) will be able to continue their education/friendships through secondary school together. |
| 172 | 172 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | If it goes ahead I strongly support a co-ed secondary catholic option. I would find it useful further along the way to hear more about the project plan, how girls would be supported, taught, extra curricular... |
| 173 | 173 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 174 | 174 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 175 | 175 | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| 176 | 176 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I’ve always thought single sex schools are better. Girls and boys have different educational needs. |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|--|
| 177 | 177 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think that when the boys and girls lean together they learn how to live together and also learn how to respect each other. |
| 178 | 178 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 179 | 179 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | <p>I do not support this proposal because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school currently provides an excellent curriculum and a range of after school activities geared towards boys' interests and ways in which boys learn. Some of this is bound to change with the inclusion of girls • The school currently has a wealth of knowledge and understanding regarding how to the best out of boys, both academically and socially. My son has never felt as accepted as he does here, where being a boy and learning as a boy is celebrated rather than punished. There are precious few environments today where boys can develop and be allowed to flourish and are nurtured ready to take their place in society. My concern is that with the acceptance of girls into the school, even with the most careful of planning and consideration, this is going to become diluted and less effective. • I have another son and I would wish for him the same positive experience that my older son currently enjoys • The school's results for boys are excellent, and although by admitting girls, the results overall may not change, within that, you run the risk that boys will be out-performed by girls, especially in literacy, where I know you have worked really hard to engage the boys • It has been mooted that Catholic parents are not sending boys to St George because they want a mixed catholic secondary. If this is the case then St Anne's would also suffer from falling rolls/catholic % of pupils and yet they are full, with a waiting list year on year • This year's Year 7 is full and with a waiting list and Years 5 & 6 at local junior/primary feeder schools are boy heavy. Would it not be worth waiting a year or two to look and see what the trend is in admissions, as you could be doing boys (catholic and other) out of places by admitting girls • Your school improvement plan will need to take account of girls/boys attainment comparisons – more paperwork for someone. Why give OFSTED another big stick to beat you with?? <p>This school is one of the few places that being a boy is celebrated. You "get boys"; they learn, they flourish and they enjoy their school years. Why would you want to take that away? We think you are great at what you do!</p> |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|--|----|--|---|----|--|---------|
| 180 | 180 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | My son has just started and my daughter could attend in 2013, if this option was available. | |
| 181 | 181 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 182 | 182 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 183 | 183 | | | | | 1 | 1 | My response rests on whether or not a school for boys will be available in the city. It seems to be unfair for there to be a girls' school in the city and not one for boys. If St Anne's were also to be mixed then this would make sense. | |
| 184 | 184 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | The main questions we have is how will being a mixed school affect the number of places available for catholic boys? Also wonder will all boys sports teams continue? Will the school maintain social links with St Anne's catholic school e.g. for prom, other social, sporting and religious events? Please keep us informed of any further consultation especially in local areas/feeder schools. Thank you. (no name or address supplied though) | |
| 185 | 185 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I believe that the proposal would be very beneficial for the catholic community. I have 2 children, 1 girl aged 8 and 1 boy aged 5, both currently at St Swithun Wells and although there is the option of St Anne's and St George I would not send them to separate schools. After the wonderful family, catholic community we have found at St Swithun Wells we would like this type of atmosphere for them at their secondary school, and we think it would be beneficial for them to be at school together. If St George were to go co-ed it would be a serious consideration for us to send our children there, rather than our local catchment school, which at the moment is looking for favourable. The only concern is how will the staff adapt to teaching girls and will the older children at the school also be able to work well with girls there? | |
| 186 | 186 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I am a very firm believer in mixed education and I think it is about time we had a mixed catholic senior school. | |
| 187 | 187 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 188 | 188 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 189 | 189 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 190 | 190 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I would be very interested in this idea of St George changing to a mixed gender school, as am very strongly against the idea of my daughter (now in Yr 4) being educated in a single sex school. I was educated at al all girls' convent school (not in Southampton) and feel that this put me at a huge disadvantage, socially, when leaving home and starting university. | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 191 | 191 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | It is high time that the catholic community in Southampton had a good mixed school to send all their children to. St George was originally built to serve both the boys and girls in the catholic community. I wish it had been a mixed school when my own sons attended, as I would have preferred them to have a mixed school education but felt it was important to support our catholic school. |
| 192 | 192 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 193 | 193 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 194 | 251 | | 1 | 1 | | | | I put my son into this school because there were no girls, I think he will learn better from an all boys school. I would like his brother, who is 9 to also go to St George but I may not send him if it is mixed. I hope the school stays as it is now. |
| 195 | 252 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 196 | 273 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | We like the idea of a mixed catholic school to continue education rather than there being no choice and having to be single sex |
| 197 | 274 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 198 | 275 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 199 | 276 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 200 | 277 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 201 | 278 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | In my opinion it will help both genders to learn how to respect each other and also to avoid the risk of bad behaviour towards girls and boys on the street. |
| 202 | 279 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 203 | 280 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 204 | 281 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 205 | 282 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | My son had a very happy and successful time at St George and I would have sent my daughter there too if I could have done. |
| 206 | 283 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Although I support the above I am worried that I and my family will be [can't read the word] from St George. Although a catholic faith based education is very important to us as a family. |
| 207 | 284 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | Very impressive school |
| 208 | 285 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Loved the school and the friendly feel and faith views of the school. I would love my daughter to come here if it changed to a mixed school. Came to the open evening and we all loved it. I hope she gets the opportunity to attend. |
| 209 | 286 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 210 | 287 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 211 | 288 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 212 | 289 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I cannot understand why if you are oversubscribed you would let even more boys lose out on the opportunity of coming to such a great school. You are making the parents have less choice if you go co-ed. |
| 213 | 290 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Boys will underachieve. More boys will lose a place. Wrong time, as no other boys' school. I would not send my boy here if it goes co-ed. |
| 214 | 291 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Boys do not do as well in certain subjects when mixed with girls. Also how will the small group of girls who start achieve well when faced with 650 boys. Girls were originally phased out in the late 60s why would you reintroduce? You are taking the only boys state school out of Soton leaving no choices for parents for a catholic boys education |
| 215 | 292 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | In my opinion, the boys will be well behaved without the distractions if they stay as a boy's school, rather than boys and girls. |
| 216 | 293 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 217 | 294 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I believe it is an important time of their lives and they need to concentrate on their exams, not each other. |
| 218 | 295 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 219 | 296 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 220 | 297 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 221 | 298 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Very keen for St George to become co-ed! |
| 222 | 299 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Would love St George to become a co-ed |
| 223 | 300 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Things can only get better! |
| 224 | 301 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 225 | 302 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 226 | 303 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I believe it would be good if it became a school for boys and girls, it will help them to interact with each other |
| 227 | 304 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I attended the drop-in session at St Swithun Wells on Thurs 27/9/11 and was really impressed by the St George staff who attended and the presentation they made. We will certainly come along to the next open day, to have a look around the school. |
| 228 | 305 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|---|----|---|---------|
| 229 | 306 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 230 | 307 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 231 | 308 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think that becoming a co-ed school would benefit the school and pupils. Many more children from outside Southampton will have easy access to a good catholic school. | |
| 232 | 309 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 233 | 310 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think its right to have a mixed senior school as well as primary schools – we now mix as a community with other cultures so we should learn to mix more with the opposite sex, in preparation for the working world. | |
| 234 | 421 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 235 | 422 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 236 | 423 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 237 | 456 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | As a Foundation Governor and former teacher at St Anthony’s Primary School I fully support the proposal that St George becomes a co-ed school and will encourage parents to do likewise. | |
| 238 | 457 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Having an education background myself I feel that co-ed is a more inclusive environment for children. My eldest son, who attended St Anthony’s did not go to St George precisely because it was a single sex school. I feel that he has grown into a far more ‘rounded’ young adult as a result of attending a mixed secondary. I have four younger children, two boys and two girls, who are currently at St Anthony’s, the eldest being in Year 5 and I would definitely seriously consider St George as my first option if it were to become a co-ed school. | |
| 239 | 458 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 240 | 459 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | We have been very happy with the all boys’ school and are not supporting the proposal to become mixed. It’s a good school as it is – why change? | |
| 241 | 460 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | Would love to have all my children at one mixed catholic secondary. | |
| 242 | 461 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 243 | 462 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 244 | 463 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | I thought that the school was amazing. Nice and friendly students and teachers. I would love to come here. | |
| 245 | 585 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | With 3 sons St George would not have been considered before – as I think they need the social interaction of girls. Really hope you do this as I would love for them to go to St George. | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 246 | 586 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 247 | 587 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 248 | 588 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I think this would be fantastic. I don't agree with single sex schools but would like my children to carry on with catholic education. Also with both my children attending the same school, they will be living the same values and expectations. Thank you. God Bless. |
| 249 | 589 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 250 | 590 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 251 | 591 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 252 | 592 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 253 | 593 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I have a son aged 8 and a daughter aged 4. I would be more likely to consider St George for my son if girls attended due to the evidence about this being better than an all male environment for boys. |
| 254 | 594 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 255 | 595 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| 256 | 596 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 257 | 597 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | I think the catholic community and the diocese should think about the impact on other catholic schools like St Anne's, which would put both schools in direct competition. This would not be good to witness to the community as a whole and to the values of the catholic church. It would undermine the trust and good working relationships between the schools. Why can't the diocese support both schools in delivering a good education? Finally I think this consultation should wait until the new Bishop is appointed and then to bring this to him for further discussion before any final decision is made. |
| 258 | 598 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 259 | 599 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | If St George were to take girls, I believe that it will not further Catholic education in the city. Single sex education has strong supporters and there is much evidence to support it, particularly for girls. By taking girls, I believe that St George will actually reduce parental choice, not enlarge it. |
| 260 | 600 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 261 | 601 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|---|----|---|---|
| 262 | 602 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | I would prefer coeducational needs for the improvement of the school and community, especially the Christian faith. As they studied in Springhill school which helps for continuity and better understanding. |
| 263 | 603 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 264 | 604 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 265 | 605 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 266 | 606 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 267 | 607 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 268 | 608 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 269 | 609 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 270 | 610 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 271 | 611 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 272 | 612 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | My reason for my son attending your school was because it is a boys' only school and just feel that girls could be a distraction to his learning/education. |
| 273 | 637 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 274 | 638 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 275 | 639 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 276 | 640 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | Our boys and girls are together at primary school and we would be very happy for that to continue. |
| 277 | 641 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | Until now St George has provided very good education for boys only, catholic and non-catholic. I believe a mixed sex school will add to the education all receive. It is time to move on. |
| 278 | 642 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 279 | 659 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 1 | I am very interested in St George for my 2 daughters, one of whom is currently in Yr 5. However I am concerned that she may not have an appropriately large female peer group of she is one of the first cohort and I wonder what will happened about ensuring there is a mix of girls and boys in ability sets etc... I wouldn't want her to feel overwhelmed by numbers of boys but equally, I feel that a mix of boys and girls is an important preparation for life. However I do worry that the first few cohorts of girls will miss out on having positive female role models, as there won't be girls in the older years. I am also concerned about numbers of girls in the first cohorts as it is important |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | to ensure there are sufficient opportunities to choose like-minded friends. |
| 280 | 660 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I feel it would provide a good balance and would give my children the opportunity to attend the same school, as both are catholic and would prefer to attend the same school |
| 281 | 661 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | <p>I am writing in response to your consultation on the proposal to admit girls into Year 7 from September 2013. We are very concerned about your proposals for a number of reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have just entered a soft federation with St George encouraging our Catholic family of schools to co-operate even more closely. In taking in girls St George would be setting itself up in direct competition to St Anne's and it is difficult to see how the soft federation could work when we are competing for the same children at Primary level. This cannot be good news for Catholic families in this area. • If St George goes co-ed this will inevitably have an impact on the number of Catholic girls attending St Anne's. This could have a detrimental effect on the ethos of St Anne's reducing the number of Catholics entering the school and tipping the balance of the mix of faiths already present. As a result St Anne's would almost certainly be forced to reduce in size or consider going co-ed itself, which will not make any sense to the Catholic community around us. • The competition between the Secondary schools for girls will inevitably lead to discomfort for our Primary schools who are with us in the soft federation and we know some of those Heads have already expressed concern to the diocese. • Parents should have the choice to have single sex education. The City have already closed down a large number of single sex schools and as the remaining single sex schools we should be stalwart in supporting parents in having this choice. There are many advantages to having boys and girls educated separately and we are concerned that the longer-term vision of our Founders is being brushed aside in the pursuit of what is perceived to be a quick fix answer to current issues at St George. If this change is made there will be far reaching implications for both schools and we fear that in the longer term the Catholic community in this area will suffer the consequences. • St George and St Anne's were the highest achieving schools in Southampton last year and the potential is immense for us to work closely and improve even more as beacons of excellent as faith schools working in a very diverse and vastly multicultural community. The two current Headteachers have an excellent working relationship, |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|--|
| | | | | | | | | <p>which has not always been the case in the more distant past. Given the potential we urge you not to engage on a path which will inevitably lead to that relationship again becoming fraught with difficulty and reducing the impact of the great work already done and the future plans of the soft federation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy status may be a future option for both Secondary schools. Without the safety net of the LA both schools would need to be even more secure in the support and backup of the Catholic schools around them rather than becoming isolated especially if the school is small as is the case of St George. St Anne's has immense capacity to face those challenges with equanimity and confidence should those decisions ensue and it would be good to know the schools will take on future challenges together rather than struggling alone with whatever the future holds in this very uncertain educational climate. <p>Surely in terms of equality of opportunity if there is an all girls school in an area then parents should have the choice of an all boys school. The legality of the decision to change may well be challenged given current emphasis on human rights and it will only take one parent/member of the public to engage on this path which could lead to expensive litigation for the Governors of St George.</p> <p>Finally, I have already been approached by parents to ask for confirmation that St Anne's will retain all girls' education. This proposal from St George is causing consternation among our Catholic families as I am sure some of them will be considering all the points I have made to you above and more.</p> <p>I urge the Governors to rethink your plans in terms of the far-reaching negative implications that this change at St George would mean for the larger family of Schools and Catholic community around you.</p> |
| 282 | 662 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 283 | 663 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 284 | 664 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| 285 | 665 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | It is unnecessary to have two schools in the city in competition for catholic girls. Rather, the two schools should work more closely together to show a 'united front' in the city. |
| 286 | 666 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| 287 | 667 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | Mixing is not a good idea. St George offers a unique service to boys. It is the only single boys school from Bournemouth to Portsmouth. |
| 288 | 668 | 1 | | | | | 1 | |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| 289 | 669 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 290 | 670 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 291 | 671 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| 292 | 672 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | Yes I think that girls join your school, but the only think that you need to do before this happens is prepare the boys mentally and emotionally as well and they are able to have a small area in the playground purely for their own space away from the girls and the girls for them. Both boys and girls need support teachers towards the end of 2012/13 for girls to have two weeks before the school/college summer holiday in the grounds to get the boys used to the girls and get the boys used to the girls in class. I hope this helps and makes sense. |
| 293 | 673 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | As a carer of a non-catholic child attending a primary feeder school, I am concerned that he will not get a place at St George if the school becomes co-ed. Of course if your admissions policy reflected the need to accept pupils from feeder schools I would support the change to co-ed. |
| 294 | 674 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | <p>The governors of St Anne's recognise that the governors, head and staff of St George are keen to build on their recent successes and expand the school in order to make it more viable and financially secure. We also recognise the long standing contribution the school makes to Catholic education in Southampton.</p> <p>However we are concerned about how a mixed school entry will affect St Anne's intake into Year 7 from 2013. St Anne's has already been affected by the cost of transport for pupils living in Hampshire and both our schools want to preserve the Catholic ethos that all our parents and community value. In order to preserve this ethos, we need a critical mass of Catholic students and teachers who are committed to our core values. We are also concerned that to review one school in such a fundamental way, without reviewing the strategic provision for Catholic education in the wider cluster and community, will have negative consequences in the longer term. History has clearly demonstrated this in Southampton.</p> <p>We also judge that while many parents will support the idea of a co-educational Catholic school in Southampton, many will still send their daughters to St Anne's. most parents prefer to send their sons to a mixed school but are aware that research demonstrates that girls flourish in a single sex environment. We are mindful that some parents do, and would, seek a mixed school for their daughter, but there is not the capacity to provide 3 state funded Catholic schools in Southampton. Significant</p> |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Comment |
|--|----|----|----|---|
| | | | | <p>decisions of this magnitude need to be made in the interests of the common good. Concerns:</p> <p>Why parents will choose St Anne's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Anne's was founded by the La Sainte Union sisters over a hundred years ago and has a long tradition of all that is best in Christian education, educating girls in Southampton not only to fulfil their potential academically, but also to develop into well rounded adults that contribute to society. Present pupils have sisters, mothers, aunts and grandmothers who have all attended St Anne's, loved the school and what it stands for. • St Anne's has demonstrably and actively valued the role of women in society and its teaching is geared towards the development of strong Christian women and women of other faiths • St Anne's has always been the highest performing comprehensive school in Southampton. It also has a strong musical and scientific tradition. • St George is situated on the edge of Southampton and many pupils will have to journey into the centre of Southampton followed by a second journey to St George. Buses arranged by St George will either be very expensive to parents or will have to be heavily subsidised by the school. This subsidy will come from money that would otherwise be spent on teaching, computers, books etc. St Anne's is in the centre of Southampton and can be reached by one bus or train journey. We feel the position of St George will discourage many girls from that school. • St Anne's has a sixth form and it is fortunate in having highly qualified and dedicated staff. The students also have the opportunities to grow in their faith. The younger girls benefit from having older role models. <p>Why a change may damage both schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently St George and St Anne's have been working more closely than in the past. In fact these two secondary schools have formed a soft federation with the Catholic primary schools in the area. The friendly and helpful cooperation between the Heads of St George and St Anne's will change to competition, still friendly but different! • If our Year 7 intake changes then our sixth form may be in danger. • Girls tend to outperform boys at primary school. If boys are freed from any comparison with girls, they no longer feel inferior and can be proud of their achievements. Research has shown recently that boys also do better in single sex |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|----|----|---|
| | | | | | <p>schools/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If St George goes ahead, some girls may choose St George but will there be enough? Will we end up with two schools that are the poorer as the result of the changes? • Competition between the two schools will not increase significantly the total number of Catholics and fellow Christians going to the schools but just slightly redistribute them. It is important that we preserve the Christian ethos of our two schools. • Some girls, who would otherwise choose to go to St Anne's, may be persuaded to go to St George for parental expediency regarding transport for their sons. This may have a discriminatory effect on females. • Finally there is still a demand for single sex schools, particularly for girls and young women. Many parents have told us that they want their daughters to go to an all girls' school. <p>The governors of St Anne's do not support the proposal that St George becomes a mixed school from 2013 because we do not think it will improve Catholic education as a whole in the area. St George and St Anne's are the only single sex schools in Southampton and together they are a valuable asset to education in Southampton, giving parents more choice and enabling the Catholic Christian ethos to be witnessed. We would be interested in any data or evidence that you may have that demonstrates that significant numbers of girls are NOT coming to St Anne's purely because it is single sex, rather than for other reasons such as journey time or availability of bursaries in the independent sector.</p> <p>We would suggest that a more strategic alliance to analyse the evidence systematically relating to the needs of Catholic children in our catchment areas be undertaken. This would aid planning and would certainly be necessary should St George's proposals go ahead.</p> <p>Collaboration rather than competition should be our mutual aim in the best interests of both boys and girls.</p> <p>Chair of Governors, St Anne's.</p> |
| 295 | 675 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 296 | 676 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 297 | 677 | 1 | 1 | 1 | I think better academic results are gained in same sex schools, compared to most mixed. Less distractions! More concentration. I understand there are advantages with a mixed environment but feel the cons outweigh the pros. This is just my opinion. |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|---|----|---|--|
| 298 | 678 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 299 | 679 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Short term would still consider St Anne's school only, but longer term if performance was good would consider St George if co-ed approved. However, need to see GCSE results after 5 years! |
| 300 | 680 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Our main concern is that short term the wrong clientele of girls may be attracted to St George school and this could adversely have an effect on the school and its results. Having just chosen this school for our son last year, we would prefer it if it remained unchanged for boys, and we know this is also his preference. We have two younger girls and are practicing Catholics and at present our choice for them would be still St Anne's, which has a proven track record and excellent results. |
| 301 | 681 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Having attended the opening evening recently and spoken to students it is obvious the school works well as a boys-only school. However, our main concern would be that the school continues to improve education and that children are given as many learning opportunities as possible, including at GCSE level. |
| 302 | 682 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 303 | 683 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | We are seriously considering the possibility that our children go to this school in the future. |
| 304 | 684 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 305 | 685 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 306 | 686 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 307 | 687 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 308 | 688 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | This will give us a wider choice of secondary schools for catholic children. The mixed schools would enhance general girls and boys links and day to day communication and social aspects of life |
| 309 | 689 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 310 | 690 | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | Parents over the years have sent their sons to St George. In a lot of cases, because it is a boys' only school. Why change it now? In the past 2 years the college has been turned around. It would be a backward step to bring girls in. The college is quite small and the teaching in smaller groups is an advantage. I would like to say how much I appreciate the encouragement and support that has been given to my grandson since he started at St George. Thank you. |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|----|----|---|
| 311 | 691 | | 1 | 1 | <p>Initially I was quite enthusiastic about this idea as I have both a boy and girl just one academic year apart and in a way it would be nice for them to continue to share a common experience of school as they have done up until now, rather than their school lives taking two going in two different directions. However, having thought about this further, listened to a few current St George parents experiences and also looked at some research into single-sex education for boys I feel that there are some very important advantages to it which need to be considered very seriously:</p> <p>Boys are less willing to participate in an opportunity if a number of girls are also doing it (and girls are much more naturally willing to participate) – for example, (at the risk of sounding very traditional) now that girls are allowed to be Alter Servers, lots of churches have many more girls on the alter than boys – Not so may boys want to do it anymore – however, before girls did it, there didn't seem to be such a problem getting boys to do it.</p> <p>The following paragraph is taken from http://www.singlesexschools.org/advantages-forboys.htm</p> <p>Andrew Hunter, a school principal who has taught at both co-ed and single-sex schools, says that "there is a subtle pressure toward gender stereotyping in mixed schools. In boys' schools, boys feel free to be themselves, to follow their interests and talents in what might be regarded as non-macho pursuits: music, arts, drama." We've heard from many young men who have shared how their interest in poetry, or history, etc. only began after they enrolled in a single-sex school. In the single-sex environment, they didn't feel any embarrassment in showing an interest in those "non-macho" activities.</p> <p>Brian Walsh, who has been a principal at private boys' schools and private co-ed schools in New England, made this observation: "Boys ordinarily do not even try to sing in a co-ed school, whereas they love choral singing in a boys' school; in the co-ed setting they make fun of French pronunciation, whereas in the single-sex setting they enjoy becoming fluent in French; in drama, they muck up or clown around to avoid seeming imperfect in a co-ed setting, whereas they excel at drama when by themselves."□</p> <p>I feel that perhaps boys on their own at school might take more advantage of opportunities that they might otherwise miss and may be more likely to learn to be themselves, in which case their natural abilities and talents are more likely to be found. Although boys and girls mix in all other walks of life and one could argue what's wrong</p> |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|---|----|--|----|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | with mixing them together in secondary education. I think it is important to remember that these 5 years are not just any 5 years out of their lives, but 5 really important and influential years, between the ages of 11 – 16, in setting them up for life ahead of them. In terms of academic achievement, I am unsure about how much difference single V co-ed really makes. I feel strongly that much of a child's achievement depends on their home life – e.g. stability, parents' expectations and the support they offer. I heard my son & daughter talking between themselves yesterday about how his friends had been calling her rude names in the playground for no apparent reason, and that he had stood on the sidelines, just occasionally calling her a rude name. He didn't want to but felt under pressure to collaborate with his friends. They are younger than her and were trying to big themselves up in what they see as macho. – Just a very basic example – but at this age already – of boys trying to find ways of overcoming a feeling inadequacy because they have a girl around who they feel is overpowering them. – Ok, this could happen anywhere outside of school as well, but if feelings of inadequacy can be avoided in the education environment this could be really helpful to boys. If there were a way round some of these issues I have highlighted then I would be in full agreement with a co-ed school. |
| 312 | 692 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 313 | 693 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| 314 | 694 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I believe that St George's college should remain an all boys' school as it gives the best opportunity for learning in a way that is geared up for boys, which has been supported by an outstanding Ofsted report. The comments that it would be better for the boys to mix with girls I don't think is applicable as think it is better for my son to mix with the wide range of other cultures within the school as mixes with girls in all activities both at church and in extra curricular activities. The admittance of girls in the school would stop some of the multi-cultural element at the school and believe that, in today's climate, this would be more of a loss than a gain for my son's future development. |
| 315 | 695 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | Object on the basis that there is a girls' catholic school in Southampton and the creation of a mixed sex catholic school would create an imbalance in the city – Cantell School Governors |
| 316 | 696 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 317 | 697 | | 1 | 1 | | | 1 | I believe that a mixed school is a better environment for children. |
| 318 | 698 | | | | | | | A wider choice of schools is always good. Especially for good catholic schools. |

RESPONSES TO PRE-STATUTORY CONSULTATION

| | | Q1 | | Q2 | | | Q3 | | Comment |
|-----|-----|----|--|----|--|--|----|--|---------|
| 319 | 699 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 320 | 700 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | We are seriously considering the possibility that our children go to this school in the future. | |
| 321 | 701 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 322 | 702 | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | I fully support the above proposal. I would wish that my son receives a catholic secondary education and prefer that it be in a co-ed establishment as I believe this to be the most natural and appropriate choice. Whilst I gained a great deal from attending St Anne's I do not believe in single sex education. | |

Summary of Consultation Results

322 views were submitted from 2, 820 distributed, making a return rate of 11%

1. Overall Response

Do you support the proposal that Saint George becomes a school for boys and girls?

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| YES | 231 of 322 responses | 72% |
| NO | 89 of 322 responses | 28% |
| ABSTAIN | 2 of 322 responses | / |

2. Catholic Response

204 of the 322 responses were from Catholics (63%). The numbers of Catholics who responded who supported the proposals are as follows:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| YES | 165 of 204 responses | 81% |
| NO | 38 of 204 responses | 19% |
| ABSTAIN | 1 of 204 responses | / |

3. Response of current St George parents

89 of the 322 responses were from parents whose son currently attends St George (28%). The numbers of current parents who responded who supported the proposals are as follows:

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|
| YES | 51 of 89 responses | 57% |
| NO | 38 of 89 responses | 43% |

Of those parents, 51% were Catholic. Their response was

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| YES | 32 of 45 Catholic responses | 71% |
| NO | 13 of 45 Catholic responses | 29% |

4. Views of the community

233 of the 322 responses were from people who did not declare themselves as parents with sons at St George. Their response was as follows:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| YES | 180 of 233 responses | 77% |
| NO | 51 of 233 responses | 22% |
| ABSTAIN | 2 of 223 responses | 1% |

5. Views of primary school parents

183 of the 322 responses were from parents, and are likely to have children at primary school age (57%). Therefore these results are most likely to represent the views of our future audience:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| YES | 145 of 183 responses | 79% |
| NO | 37 of 183 responses | 20% |
| ABSTAIN | 1 of 183 responses | 1% |