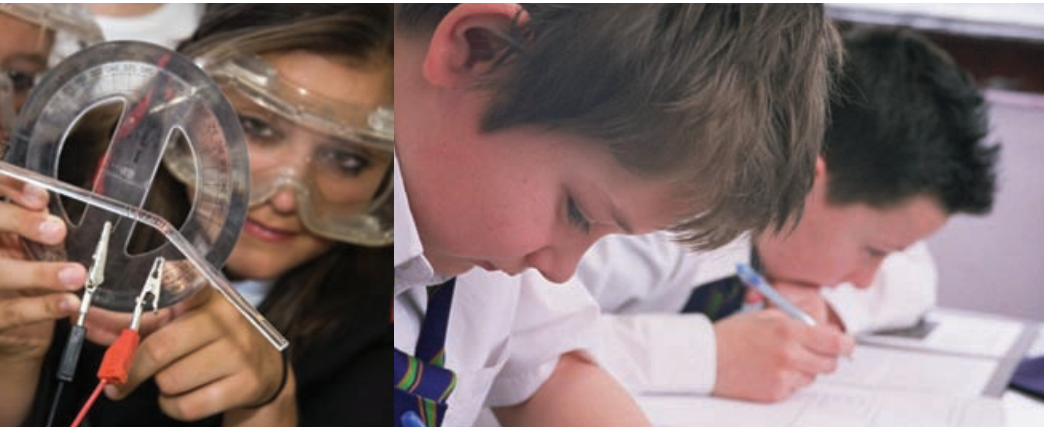




Saxmundham Free School project Consultation questionnaire



Our children deserve the very best education. The proposal to open a Free School in Saxmundham is about creating new opportunities to raise standards and to provide new ways to help all children enjoy learning and achieve their best.

This questionnaire is **your** chance to have your say on those plans.



What is a Free School?

A Free School is a new type of school. It is funded directly by central Government as long as there is sufficient community support. A Free School is still a state school and subject to Ofsted inspections. It has more freedom to make decisions about teaching and learning, staff and resources.

When would the School open?

It is proposed that Saxmundham Free School opens in September 2012 in premises currently occupied by Saxmundham Middle School, which will close in July 2012. Initial plans would be to start with school year groups 7, 8 and 9.

Who would run the Free School?

The Seckford Foundation Free School Trust would run the School. Saxmundham Free School would have its own Headteacher who would lead the School day-to-day. The Seckford Foundation is a 400 year old charitable trust whose trustees govern Woodbridge School, a highly successful independent school, also in Suffolk. The Trust plans to open other Free Schools in Suffolk.

What are the aims of the new School?

Plans would be to:

- Raise academic standards
- Raise aspirations of learners and their families
- Improve the provision of community services for young and old.

The aim is for exceptional academic achievement, so that students, staff and the community are proud to be part of the School. The Trust would support teachers and staff so they can focus on student progress, not administration.

For more details visit our website
www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk



How will teaching/learning be different?

The School's curriculum would reflect the flavour of the English Baccalaureate – which demands GCSE grade C in a variety of academic subjects. More time would be given to maths and English than usual alongside the study of science, French and/or Spanish, history, geography and creative subjects.

Would my child be able to go to the Free School?

The School is non-selective and open to children of all abilities. If your child is a student at another secondary school you can move her/him to the School, as long as there are places available. The first step is to contact the admissions team at Suffolk County Council.

How long is the School day?

A breakfast club would start at 8.00am and the School would run from 8.40am to 16.35pm. A range of interesting and fun activities would take place after school such as ICT and Latin. Lunch would be provided at the School.

How would my child be cared for?

As this would be a small secondary school, staff would get to know their students as individuals. The School would provide dedicated pastoral staff and work in partnership with families to maintain a safe and caring environment. Communication will be clear and open at all times.

What happens to my views?

The views of people in the local community really matter so it is important you complete this questionnaire. We will pass on your views to the Secretary of State for Education, who will then decide if Saxmundham Free School should go ahead.

How can I return this questionnaire?

Please send your completed questionnaire to the following address.

Saxmundham Free School Project
FREEPOST, CB41, Demeter House, Station Road,
Cambridge, CB1 2YA

You don't need to use a stamp.

**We need your comments by
8 February 2012.**



About you

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone/mobile: _____

Email: _____

I am:

- Parent/carer with a child at Saxmundham Middle School
- Teacher
- Governor
- Parent of a child at another local school (name of school) _____
- Member of staff from another local school (name of school) _____
- Local resident
- Other? (please specify)

Do you want to be kept informed about the Free School developments?

Yes No

How would you like us to keep you up to date?

- Website
- Letter
- Local newspaper/radio
- Email
- Newsletter
- Other (please say) _____





Questionnaire

What do you think about the proposal to set up Saxmundham Free School?

- I support the plans I'm not sure
- I don't support the plans

Why do you think that?

Do you have a view on how the Free School might make a difference to other local schools?

How could the Free School make sure it is really part of the local community?

Is there anything else you'd like to say?

How else can I have my say?

Come and talk to us at these local drop-in sessions:

Saturday 21 January: 10am–12 noon Market Hall, Saxmundham

Wednesday 1 February: 10am–1.30pm Saxmundham Library, Street Farm Road

Wednesday 1 February: 2–5pm Fromus Centre, Seaman Avenue, Saxmundham

You can also **write to the:** Saxmundham Free School, c/o The Seckford Foundation, Burkitt Road, Woodbridge, IP12 4JJ

Or you can email questions to enquiries@saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk

Please make sure you return this questionnaire by **8 February 2012**. If you would like this leaflet in another language or large print, please write to us at the address above or email: enquiries@saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk

Thank you for your help.

