

Planning a new school - join the conversation

As a trust intending to bid to establish the new free school proposed as part of the Twigworth Green housing development, we are keen to hear your views at this early stage. We believe that strong schools are built in partnership with their communities, and your input is vital in shaping a shared vision.

This is an opportunity to meet with representatives of the Trust and the Parish Council, ask questions about our aspirations, and share your thoughts on what you would like the new school to offer the families of this growing community.

Presentation: Planning a New School – Join the Conversation

- The GLA Trust – 'Twigworth Green Primary Academy'
- 5th March 2026



About the Proposed School

- Free School Presumption model:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/663dfcab993111924d9d324a/Free_school_presumption_guidance.pdf

"The presumption process is the main route by which local authorities bring about the establishment of new schools to meet the need for additional places... Where the proposal is for a primary school, there is an expectation that the specification will include a nursery, unless there is a demonstrable reason not to... All new schools established through the presumption process are classified as free schools... Academies are state-funded schools that are independent of local authority control and receive their funding directly from the government."

- Designed to serve the new development and wider parish
- Flexible approach to curriculum and extracurricular opportunities
- Focus on community involvement from the start (e.g. naming the school)



Why Community Input Matters

- Helps the school reflect local priorities
- Guides decisions on curriculum, facilities, and activities
- Builds community ownership from the start

We want to hear what matters to families, residents, and local groups – from playgrounds to community clubs.

What We're Hoping to Learn

- What the community values in a school
- Ideas for extracurricular activities or clubs
- Preferences for facilities or learning approaches
- Any concerns or local considerations

No idea is too small – we want an open conversation.

How the Parish Council Can Help

- Provide advice on community needs or sensitivities
- Encourage parish groups to take part

Your support can make this a truly community-shaped school.

Next Steps

- Await the school specification from the Local Authority
- Schedule community drop-in and other consultation methods
- Use insights to inform application

Questions & Discussion

- Which local stakeholders (residents, businesses, parent groups) should we engage with?
 - Would the council consider endorsing or supporting the free school application?
 - Can you help us share a community consultation (survey, meeting, etc.)?
 - How can we work together to ensure the school benefits the whole community?
 - What would you like to see included in a new school that would meet local expectations?
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Background on GLA Trust

- The GLA Trust started in 2013 as a group of three primary schools and has grown to 11 schools in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, educating about 2,700 pupils and employing over 400 staff. ([Gloucestershire Learning Alliance](#))
- Its leadership includes experienced school leaders with specific expertise in school improvement and free school projects.

Experience with opening New Schools

- **Longford Park Primary Academy**: brought into the Trust and opened as a new academy with Trust sponsorship, following local authority and DfE approval. (longfordpark.org.uk) – *Longford Park shares the GL2 postcode with Twigworth Green*
- **Great Oldbury Primary Academy**: brought into the Trust and opened as a new academy with Trust sponsorship, following local authority and DfE approval. (<https://www.greatoldbury.org.uk/>)
- **Greenacres Primary Academy**: successfully appointed as the sponsor to open new provision in Bishops Cleeve. *The USP for this school, following community consultation, is sustainability.*
- **Growth of the trust itself** reflects successful expansion beyond its founding schools, adding new member schools over time as part of its development strategy.

Purpose, vision, values

Purpose: why do we exist and what do we believe in?

Within the GLA we are united in the belief that all children deserve equity of education. Our consistent focus each day is to develop our people and direct our resources so that all children are safe, happy and can achieve their potential.

Vision: what are our ambitions for current and future pupils?

Our aim is for every child to leave the Trust feeling proud and with a sense of confidence about their next steps. Proud to have achieved something special with their unique talents and confident to develop those talents further in the next chapter of their education.

Values: what are the agreed, shared behaviours that bring the vision to life?

Equity Opportunity Expertise Evidence Community

The GLA Trust

Gloucestershire Research School
Supported by the Education Endowment Foundation

Logford Park Primary Academy
Logford Park Little Learners

Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy

BADSEY FIRST SCHOOL

Springbank Primary Academy EPIC

Springbank Little Learners EPIC

Rowanfield Infant School
Green. Drive. Day. Dapple.

Rowanfield Junior School
Green. Drive. Day. Dapple.

GREAT OLDBURY PRIMARY ACADEMY

GREAT OLDBURY LITTLE LEARNERS

CARRANT BROOK Junior School

TREDINGTON PRIMARY

Gloucestershire Research School
Supported by the Education Endowment Foundation

Greenacres Primary Academy
COMING SOON

Churchdown Village Infant School
Promoting Lifelong Learning

Northway Infant School
where children shine