

Respondents

How are you responding				
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Brighton & Hove resident	7	30.4	30.4
	Parent of a pupil at another Brighton & Hove school	2	8.7	8.7
	Teacher at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College	10	43.5	43.5
	Support staff at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College	1	4.3	4.3
	Other	3	13.0	13.0
	Total	23	100.0	100.0

In what other way are you responding

Ex Pupil of Blatch 6

Parent of a pupil in Year 10 at Blatchington Mill Secondary School

Parent of pupil at Blatchington Mill

Do you agree or disagree in principle to the closure of Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College?					
	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
All Respondents (n=23)	7	6	1	2	7
	30%	26%	4%	9%	30%
Brighton & Hove resident (n=7)	3	1	0	1	2
	43%	14%	0%	14%	29%
Parent of a pupil at another Brighton & Hove school who's child was planning on going to Blatchington 6 form (n=2)	0	1	0	0	1
	0%	50%	0%	0%	50%
Teacher at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College (n=10)	4	3	1	1	1
	40%	30%	10%	10%	10%
Support staff at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College (n=1)	0	0	0	0	1
	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Other (n=3)	0	1	0	0	2
	0%	33%	0%	0%	67%

Q2. - Do you agree or disagree in principle to the closure of Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College?	Q3. - If there is anything you want to tell us about the reason for your answer, you can write this below
Strongly agree	I believe that the partnership between Hove Park School and Blatch has been an excellent example of two schools working closely together. It makes sense that there is a Hove provision and that that provision is at Hove Park School
Strongly agree	Strong rationale for efficient use of resources.
Strongly agree	The school cannot sustain the poor results or financial insecurity of the current sixth form. It is unfair on the 11-16 year old students.
Strongly agree	This will provide more places for 11-16 year olds which are needed in the city
Tend to agree	sad, but fully understand. My eldest daughter took A-levels at Blatch 6, my younger daughter was expecting to do the same. She will miss the extra-curricular opportunities that Blatch offers all its pupils.
Tend to agree	Sixth forms need to be viable in terms of numbers and offer a vibrant atmosphere; Blatch 6 has struggled to meet either need.
Tend to agree	Whilst the economic argument for closing Blatch 6th form is sound, there is still a need for small colleges that support children in post-16 education who cannot cope with large college organisations. This will be lost when Blatch closes and there's no other provision in Brighton and Hove
Tend to disagree	Although I understand the reasons for closure as provided by the school and Local Authority I do not think the needs of young people with challenging early life experiences is adequately addressed within the proposal. Transitions are hard for young people who have had early life challenges and the teenage years are known to be particularly challenging. The structure of Brighton and Hove's post 16 provision can be seen as more challenging and less inclusive to this group of young people. Having to change education environment and make key decisions at 15-16 adds extra layers of stress to young people and their families/carers. Additionally, the post 16 colleges are huge, provide very limited structure (3 hrs timetable lessons per subject) and appear to be lacking in some of the key features which we know support young people (being 'known' by staff, Key Adults, Team around the Young person etc.). For this reason I think it is very important to provide smaller post 16 opportunities across Brighton and Hove where young people can be supported through a challenging stage. It is unfortunate that the remaining sixth forms are in a similar geographical area. If Blatchington Mill Sixth form is to close (leaving Hove Park and Cardinal Newman as sixth form opportunities in the West of the City) has any consideration been given to matching provision in the East of the city to benefit some of our most vulnerable young people i.e. seamless transition into sixth form at either Dorothy Stringer or Varndean? Thanks
Tend to disagree	I have really enjoyed teaching 6th form students. It has been very hard to recruit students but many of the ones that I have taught have hugely benefitted from being in a small 6th form and taught in small classes. I think some of these students will get lost in the larger colleges. Some students just don't have the confidence to manage and will fail. Other students have really benefited from the range of specialist subjects that have been offered particularly in performing arts & creative subjects and gone on to Uni and in to excellent professional jobs. Many of them still keep in touch because we offer a more personalised programme. I am also concerned about the impact on staff. Mr Harold says that teachers jobs are secure but the change in status could potentially lead to redundancies for staff as several small subject specialisms will disappear or teaching time at Ks3&4 will not be a full time job. It will lead to staff having to teach outside their specialism and possibly pushed into subjects that they don't feel they can deliver. The pace of change in education at the moment with new gcse's and revised KS3 is difficult to manage in our own specialisms but it would be very tricky if asked to teach something new. Limited finances would mean that it would be difficult to be properly trained to do this.
Strongly disagree	Continuity, children who wish to feel secure studying A levels in the school they know well. Children who work well with teachers at Blatch.
Strongly disagree	Many staff feel like this will have a negative impact on the school and the local area. We feel that not enough effort has been made to increase 6th form numbers and that in fact decisions have been made that have had an adverse effect on students attending Blatch 6. For example open evenings have been scheduled after students have already had to make choices about other colleges, brochures have not been completed in time, successful courses have been closed and not enough options have been given to students. Blatch 6 provides a specific post 16 education to students who would struggle in larger 6th forms and who have specific needs that teachers know and care about. We would be doing a disservice to those students. On the consultation form it says there will be no negative effect on staff which is simply not true. Staff will be forced to work in subjects they are not trained in which impacts the progress of students. Others will be offered admin jobs below their capabilities and skill set. We will lose good members of staff because they want to work in post 16 and it hinders chances of promotion or progression to other schools with post 16. many teachers love that part of the job the most. I am certainly not alone in thinking these things and we feel there is an agenda here to get rid of the 6th form because it is the thing the school finds most difficult to improve. rather than working harder to improve it, they get rid of it.
Strongly disagree	There is no reason to close the 6th form college for economies of scale, as small colleges will benefit from more personalised teaching and smaller classes. Also, the pupils will have to travel further to other colleges, probably Varndean, which is already a large site and will have to expand to the detriment of its pupils.

Do you agree or disagree in principle to the closure of Blatchington		
	Support the proposal	Do not support the proposal
All Respondents (n=7)	3	4
	43%	57%
Brighton & Hove resident (n=0)	0	0
Parent of a pupil at Blatchington Mill School (n=6)	3	3
	43%	43%
Parent of a pupil at another Brighton & Hove school who's child was planning on	0	0
Teacher at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College (n=1)	0	1
		14%
Support staff at Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College (n=0)	0	0
Other (n=3)	0	0

Do you support or not support the proposal to close Blatchington Mill Sixth Form College?	Comments included on paper forms
Not support	It seems to be being rushed through with decisions already made which can pre-determine the outcome. I understand the concept of financial viability but would also like some consideration given to continuity of care and the benefits a smaller college can bring to more vulnerable students.
Not support	It takes away choice. Some children prefer to stay at the school where they feel safe, have the same teachers in a small and familiar environment. My son has been left with Varndean or BHASVIC, he will not consider Hove Park. He walks to and from school, now it will be a bus journey and he will not be able to come home for free periods. Bad move for a popular school.
Not support	With the current rise in primary school places comprising of bulge years and the opening of Hove Juniors in Holland Road I believe we should be increasing provision for High School KS3 places and Post 16 KS4 places for our children. We should invest money into KS4 education and stop cutting money which will reduce the chances for our children.

