

# WHITTAKER MOSS PRIMARY SCHOOL



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## Summary of Academisation Consultation

The Governing Body of Whittaker Moss Primary School, Rochdale consulted parents, staff and the wider school community on its proposal to convert to academy status and join ALTUS Education Partnership following a two-year period where the school has worked under a Trust Partnership Agreement with ALTUS and other local schools.

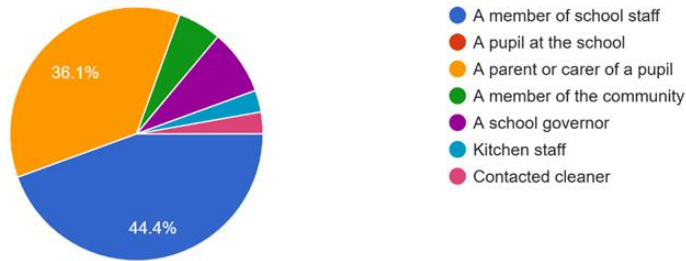
The consultation process lasted 3 weeks from 24 November 2025 to 15 December 2025. Information was shared and the opportunity to ask questions provided via email, Google forms and open meetings. Pupils of the school were also consulted via the School Council representatives and their views taken into consideration. Staff were also able to participate in meetings with the leadership of the school and the CEO and Head of Primaries for ALTUS Education Partnership.

- A. A total of **36 responses** were received to the consultation document
- B. **15 written responses** were received in the open comments section of the consultation document via Google forms. The responses reflected a range of views, including:
  - Support for the proposal
  - Concerns and reservations
  - Requests for further information or clarification
  - Neutral responses

The Governing Body recognises that stakeholders hold differing perspectives and values all feedback provided. Further information and answers in response to feedback was provided on the school website and updated as responses were received. Parents were further signposted to this via the school newsletter. No further feedback or requests for further clarification was received following this.

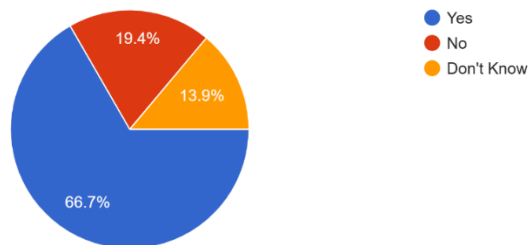
Please confirm the status that best describes you: (Please select one)

36 responses



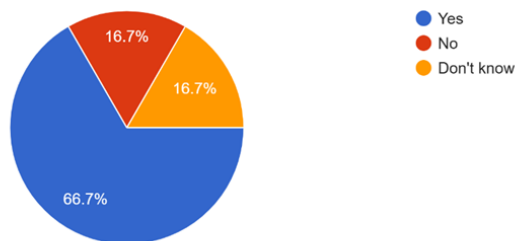
Do you support the proposal for Whittaker Moss Primary School to convert to academy status and become part of The Altus Education Partnership, a multi academy trust (MAT)? (Please select one)

36 responses



Do you agree that the Secretary of State should enter into a Funding Agreement (contract) for Whittaker Moss Primary School? (Please select one)

36 responses



- C. No direct emails or telephone calls were received during the consultation process
- D. The open meeting held on 4 December 2025 for parents, carers and wider members of the school community had no attendees
- E. Staff of the school attended a meeting on 4 December 2025 and had the opportunity to ask questions and share their own thoughts and opinions. Questions had been satisfactorily answered on a range of areas affecting both children and staff. Verbal feedback expressed at the meeting was exclusively positive about converting to academy status and about joining ALTUS Education Partnership.
- F. Pupils of the School Council attended two consultation meetings where they received information about the consultation process and then were able to share the responses

and thoughts of pupils of the school. Responses were received by **194 pupils of the school**. The majority of pupils supported the proposed move to join ALTUS (around 80% of pupils) with approximately 10% of pupils either having no preference or not being in support of the proposal.

G. No other written feedback was received

H. Feedback during informal discussions with parents and staff was positive although one parent expressed sadness because they had specifically chosen Whittaker Moss for its nurturing and unique ethos and were concerned that this ethos risked change within a Trust. The Headteacher explained that the Governing Body had chosen ALTUS because its ethos regarding the school and the wider Rochdale community and desire that its schools should retain their individuality was most in tune with that of Whittaker Moss Primary School.

## **Governing Body Resolution**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026, the Governing Body of Whittaker Moss Primary school held an Extraordinary Full Governing Body meeting to consider the responses to its consultation on converting to academy status and joining ALTUS Education partnership. The Governing Body noted that responses were in the main positive with some responses which required further explanation or information which had been provided by the school via the school website and which had been communicated to the school community. As there were no further follow up to the clarifying information provided, the Governing Body has determined that the answers and explanations given were satisfactory to the respondents.

The Governing Body reviewed the original benefits and reasons for Whittaker Moss converting to an academy school, as initially considered at the Extraordinary Governing Body meeting on 21 October 2025. The Governing Body agreed that the benefits and reasons remained relevant.

**The Governing Body determined by unanimous vote that, following the stakeholder consultation, it will proceed with converting to academy status and joining the ALTUS Education Partnership.**