

PUBLIC VIEWS ON THE HOMEWOOD TRUST PROPOSAL

Summary of the public meeting held on 1 October 2008 at St Teresa's
Primary School

Issue or Comment	Response
Concern was raised about there only being one proposal and that it was to federate with a school in the Ashford Rural partnership.	The Local Authority began its consultation about the new school at the beginning of the year, which was widely publicised across both Ashford partnerships. Only one proposal was received in response to the consultation.
What impact would there be on local schools in Ashford 1 partnership?	A phased development would be agreed in discussion with the promoter. Entry to the new school would be staggered over a period of time Due to the current economic climate the development of Repton Park may be coming to a stand still. It is, therefore, important that the Local Authority can work with a promoter that is willing to work toward a flexible start date with a phased entry approach.
Homewood School is in Tenterden which is far away from the families of Ashford town. The majority of pupils in Ashford 1 will attend their local secondary school. What will happen to the young people in Repton Park when they reach 11 years of age?	The Governing Body of Homewood School, not The Homewood Trust, are responsible for admissions to Homewood School. They would not make a special case for Repton Park students to transfer directly to Homewood.
This is an ideal opportunity in which to develop a proper community with the development of this new school.	<p>The boundary between the Ashford partnerships has been disappearing over recent months. Collaborative work is currently taking place between the Ashford partnership Headteachers. In the spirit of partnerships it should be about schools working together not being restricted by boundaries.</p> <p>The Homewood Trust proposal offers the opportunity of a catalyst for this school to start serving its community and the establishment of effective community cohesion.</p>
Can the Local Authority confirm that there will be sufficient pupils from the development to secure the long term sustainability of the new school in this part of Ashford?	The new school is to primarily serve the residents of the Repton park development. Forecast data indicates that there are currently no primary school places within one mile of the development. There are primary school places available within three miles of the proposed new school. However, these are forecast to reduce within the next five years.