

Title: Rye Studio School

Author: Department for Education (DfE)

Approved in July 2012, opened in September 2013

Impact Assessment – Section 9 Academies Act Duty

1. Section 9 of the Academies Act 2010 (later as amended by the Education Act 2011) places a duty on the Secretary of State to take into account what the impact of establishing the institution would likely be on maintained schools, Academies, institutions within the further education sector and alternative provision in the area in which the institution is (or is proposed to be) situated. Any adverse impact will need to be balanced against the benefits of establishing the new school.
2. We have carried out an Impact Assessment (see Annex B1) which concludes that the impact on most local schools should be minimal to moderate. One school, Hastings Academy, has been assessed as high impact as the academy was undersubscribed for entry in 2011/2012 and has existing surplus places of 22%. However, there are mitigating factors that would reduce this to moderate. Hastings Academy is an 11 – 18 technology college, specialising in English and Information and Communication Technology. It opened as a sponsored academy on 1 September 2011 (the main sponsor is the University of Brighton with East Sussex County Council and BT as co- sponsors). As it has recently become a sponsored academy, education standards will improve and thus make the school more attractive. This is demonstrated through the most recent Ofsted report (June 2013) which rated the academy as good. In addition, Rye Studio School's specialism (Creative Arts and Media) is sufficiently different to Hastings Academy to make it less likely to attract their students. The Studio School is small (at steady state admitting 100 Yr. 10 and 200 Yr. 12 students) with a comparatively wide catchment area (extending to Tenterden, Bexhill and Ashford). The Trust visited Hastings Academy as part of their consultation and no issues were raised during the consultation about the impact on Hastings Academy. To date, the Studio School has received five applications for KS5 from students currently at Hastings Academy. East Sussex County Council has not raised any concerns about the Studio School and its impact locally, and has been supportive in promoting the school, including providing project management support for the capital programme
3. There are three FE colleges within five miles of the Studio School, all of which are likely to feel a minimal impact.
4. We conclude that it is appropriate for the Secretary of State to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Multi-Academy Trust in light of the possible impacts on the basis that:
 - a. The school will be likely to improve standards in the area;
 - b. The school will give parents greater choice and will offer something different to existing schools. It will offer a unique curriculum model, provide work experience opportunities for students and offer an extended school day with a more 'business-like' ethos.

Annex B (i) – Impact Assessment

Secondary School

School Name	School Type	Capacity	Attainment 2011/12	Ofsted Grade	Impact Rating
Rye College	Academy Converters	750	50%	Good	Moderate: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school
The Hastings Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	900	47%	Good	High: The Studio School is likely to affect the long term viability of the school.
Helenswood School	Community School	1281	65%	Satisfactory	Minimal: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school
Homewood School and Sixth Form Centre	Academy Converters	2156	43%	Good	Minimal: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school
William Parker Sports College	Voluntary Controlled School	1411	33%	Inadequate	Moderate: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school

Post 16

College Name	Ofsted	Number of Learners aged 16 – 18	Proportion of Learners aged 16 – 18	Average Point Score per Student 2012	Impact Rating
Sussex Coast College Hastings	Inadequate	1818	50.6%	516.3	Minimal: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school
Bexhill College	Good	1432	99.9%	678.9	Minimal: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school
Sussex Downs College	Good	4656	64.7%	628.4	Minimal: The Studio School is unlikely to affect the long term viability of the school