

**Title: The Create Studio, Goole**  
**Author: Department for Education (DfE)**

**Approved in July 2012, opened in September 2013**

**Impact Assessment – Section 9 Academies Act Duty**

School name	School type	Capacity	Attainment in 2012 (5A*-C incl English and Maths) <sup>1</sup>	Ofsted grade	Impact rating
Goole High School	Academy Converter	1172	35%	Satisfactory	High
Howden School and Technology College	Community School	936	61%	Satisfactory	High
Holy Family Catholic High School	Voluntary Aided	463	53%	Good	Minimal
The Snaith School	Community School	972	72%	Good	Minimal
Trinity Academy	Academy Sponsor-led	1470	57%	Outstanding	Minimal
FE providers	School type	Total number of learners	Average point score per student at level 3 (2012) <sup>2</sup>	Ofsted grade	Impact rating

**Impact Assessment**

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,

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<sup>1</sup> National average = 58%

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 B) which concludes that the impact on most local schools and colleges should be minimal. Two schools, Goole High School, and Howden School and Technology College, have been assessed as high impact but we believe there are mitigating factors that would reduce this to moderate for each.
3. The first of the two schools on which there may be a high impact is Goole High School (GHS). GHS is an 11-18 school in Goole's town centre, on the same campus as the Studio School. GHS is one of the two sponsors of the Goole Create Studio, and sees it as part of a wider strategy to offer a high quality new offer for some of its own students as well as the wider community. GHS is an improving school (GCSE attainment was 35% in 2012) that Ofsted consider satisfactory (September 2011) and it is possible that this will lead parents and young people to be attracted by a new offer – but this is part of the school's planning and it has considered carefully the impact of the Studio, both financially and educationally (the Studio's offer will be clearly distinct from that of GHS). The Studio will be built in close proximity to the existing school, and share some services – further evidence that the school's leaders do not consider the Studio to be a threat to their existing provision.
4. The second of the two schools on which there may be a high impact is Howden School and Technology College (HSTC). This school is an 11-16 provider located 4 miles from the site of the new Studio School. The risk of a high impact comes from a declining roll in HSTC, with surplus places at around 25%, and the fact that parents may be attracted to an alternative as HSTC has only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted judgement (Sept 2011). However, HSTC's attainment is improving rapidly – up from 45% to 61% since 2010, and this will provide reassurance to parents who may otherwise have pursued an alternative. Furthermore, HSTC does not offer a sixth form – it was closed in 2012 due to the low number of students choosing to stay on and study there. Prior to the closure of the sixth form, HSTC's small KS5 cohort (14 students) was educated in partnership with, and on the site of, Goole High School. The Studio School's cohort at capacity (from 2015/16) will be two-thirds KS5 (200 students, with 100 at KS4) and this is a further mitigating factor, as this means it will not be in competition with HSTC for the majority of its students.

5. It should also be noted that only 30% of local young people in Goole and the surrounding area have a Level 3 qualification – suggesting existing provision is not meeting their needs and that young people may be attracted to a new offer. The Studio School's offer will be unique in the area and deliver specialisms not available anywhere else currently.
6. There are three FE colleges near to the site of the new Studio – the potential impact on each is considered to be minimal. The nearest of the three, Selby College, is 11 miles away, and is the other partner in the sponsorship of the Studio School.
7. On balance, we conclude that it is appropriate for the Secretary of State to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Trust in light of the possible impacts on the basis that:
  - a) The school has potential to improve standards in the area; and
  - 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.

## **Summary of Statutory Section 10 Consultation**

The Academy Trust of the Studio School carried out a consultation that included a formal period (in which the key question was asked) from 8 November 2012 to 11 January 2013. The consultation included a series of local events for a wide range of young people, parents, local Heads, employers and other interested parties. Responses to the consultation, although low (18 respondents), were overwhelmingly positive – with only one response opposing the proposal (although no reason was provided). In response to the Department's letter about assessing impact under section 9 of the Academies Act 2010, a response was received from [REDACTED] East Riding of Yorkshire council, stating support for the innovation of the Studio School but expressing concerns about how the school would operate within low local funding levels. As a result of the letter, the proposers were encouraged to work more closely with the local authority and, subsequently, have provided sufficient evidence to the Department of the Studio School's financial viability upon opening. A risk raised by [REDACTED] – that the Studio School would fail to recruit sufficient pupils external to the students cohort that already attends Goole High School – has been logged formally on the project's risk register, as a top priority for 2013/14.

## **Conclusion**

With this mitigating action in mind, and the largely positive responses to the consultation, we therefore conclude that it would be reasonable to enter into the Funding Agreement with the Trust.