

Methodology

The consultation has been taking place over a number of weeks focusing on discussions with the school council, a group of 5- 10 pupils. The discussions have been facilitated by school staff (notes from these meetings are included in appendix 1). Four year six pupils then met with Hannah Peake a LCC non school employee to feedback their opinions. The architectural plan for the expansion was used as a tool to explain the plans to the children, explore how they felt and enable them to express their opinions.

Pupils opinions

The pupils were very positive about the school expansion and they felt that the whole school would be very positive about future changes. The best things about the expansion plans;

- Not having to wait for Barden (the school they share some of the facilities with)
- Having more space
- Having a trampoline
- That the computer room will be closer to the classes
- Not having to walk so far around the building as everything will be closer together

They did have a number of questions about the proposal which mostly focused on where staff, e.g. the nurse and physiotherapist, would be given that rooms would be changed but once this was explained were happy that everyone had a room and that most staff had better rooms.

The pupils discussed some of the plans in more detail and their feedback included;

- The hall is currently not suitable to the needs of all pupils and is shared with Barden (the other primary school who use the building). The pupils were very excited about having something that was theirs. They talked about having assemblies in the hall, about not rushing and being able to go in when they wanted. The pupils thought that the hall would be positive for dining so pupils would not have to rush, this is particularly important for some pupils who need support with feeding which can take time. The pupils were really excited about the possibilities the hall would provide for PE and wanted a climbing wall. They thought it was positive that there would be changing rooms and toilets just next to the hall which would be easy for people who need more support. The pupils were also very positive about the trampoline and other soft play equipment that would be in the hall. They felt that some pupils with particular needs and disabilities would find the trampoline really beneficial as at the moment they to travel to another school close by to use one. The pupils also noted that it would be a great space for pupils who need time out during class.
- The new food technology room was of great interest to the young people as it would be larger enabling everyone to use it including those in larger wheelchairs something that is not possible in the current room. The fact that the Food Fantastic club will be able to meet there rather than in one of the classrooms was another positive comment.

- The pupils were delighted that the Merry Berries after school club would have somewhere of its own to meet and very excited that this could result in the club being on more often as they would not have to share the hall.
- The pupils liked the fact that the school would have its own reception so it would be closer to everyone. One pupil liked the fact that he would not have to walk as far with the register.
- The pupils thought Class one would like their new room because they would have more space to play. One of the pupils commented that he wished he was in class one when the changes happened.

The pupils were concerned about the building work as it would be noisy which would be disruptive but also hard for some pupils who do not like loud noises. The pupils suggested that they could do the building work in the holidays and also try to reduce the noise as much as possible.

Tips for the architect and builders










- The pupils want to keep some outdoor space and develop it so it can be used. The space where the hall will be is not currently used by anyone so the pupils felt that it was a good place for the hall to go but they wanted to utilise the left over green space for themselves. They wanted outdoor space for bikes or football.
- The hall will need a new projectors, dark blinds to reduce glare
- The pupils thought there needed to be doors into the school that were closer to the car park and not shared
- The pupils wanted to meet the builders and check on their progress

Summary






- The children can see the benefit of the expansion and are very excited about the possibilities it provides. The school councils were clear that they would like to tell the rest of the school about the plans and continue to play a part in the new developments, should they be approved, helping with designing, taking people on tours of the new facilities and helping to make the new school a success.

 Holly Grove School Council -  Our thoughts  on the plans





 
for a bigger school.






 We  all thought it would be  great to have  our own
 hall so that we  can  have assemblies  when  we want


to.

 Kyle said  that it would be  really great if  our  friends

 who cannot  do PE properly  in the hall,  can do

 their PE at the end of the hall  in a  soft  play






 area with a  trampoline too, then  we  can  all do


PE together .




Kyle thought it would be good to have changing rooms and






toilets there.

Sophie thought it would be good to have a laptop and screen

 in the hall. Sue  said  we would have the  chance 

 to tell a lady  who is coming to  see  us next

 week  about our  ideas.

 5. The next step is to  meet the  lady  next week.



Kyle thought it would be good to have changing rooms and



toilets there.

Sophie thought it would be good to have a laptop and screen



in the hall.



Ashley said it would be good to have some rooms for



Angie and the school nurse in the new building.



Paul thought it would be lovely to have a computer



room too, so that classes can have lessons together.



Ashley said it would be great to have a room for



cooking Food Fantastic Club could meet there too.



We



all thought



that

the new hall would be an excellent



place for Merry Berries



to



meet,



instead of using



the

dining hall.



Ashley

added

that if



we

had



our

own

hall to

have



dinner



in,



we

wouldn't need to



rush



our



dinner



any more!