

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013:

In respect of an LA Proposal: School and local authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school and a contact address for the local authority who are publishing the proposals.

The proposal to expand the number of places at Primrose Hill Primary School (Community), Primrose Hill Road, Euxton, Chorley, PR7 6BA from 210 to 420 pupils is published by Lancashire County Council, the relevant local authority. The authority can be contacted at the following address: Corporate Commissioning, Asset Management Team, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ, Lancashire.

2. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

- (a) The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.
- (b) Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body

The implementation date for this proposal is 1st September 2016.

Support, objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including:
 - (a) the date prescribed by which objections or comments should be sent to the local authority; and
 - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

These proposals have been prepared following discussions with a wide range of partners and other stakeholders. Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals any person may object to, or comment on the proposals by sending their representations to the Directorate of Children and

Young People, Corporate Commissioning, Asset Management Team, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston PR1 8RJ. Responses can also be emailed to cyp.schoolreviews@lancashire.gov.uk. To be considered as part of the decision making process to determine the proposals, responses must be received no later than Monday 18th May 2015.

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

In response to increases in pupil numbers in the Euxton area as a result of increased birth rates, coupled with the effect of significant housing development, on the 4th December 2014 the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools approved the temporary expansion of Primrose Hill Primary School, to provide an additional 30 places in reception year from September 2015 for one year. The temporary expansion will be enabled by using existing accommodation.

Based on future pupil projections, on the 12th January 2015 the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools also approved the consultation on a proposal to permanently expand Primrose Hill Primary School, to admit 30 additional pupils to each reception year with effect from 1st September 2016. Should the permanent expansion be approved, then additional permanent accommodation will be provided on the existing school site. To facilitate the expansion an additional piece of land that adjoins the existing site has been acquired by the authority.

If the permanent expansion is approved the maximum capacity of the primary school will be increased to 420, by the provision of an extension to the building to enable the increase in the number of children admitted to Reception Year from 30 to 60, with effect from September 2016.

This expansion is required to help address the projected shortfall in school places. The expansion of Primrose Hill Primary School will help to provide additional pupil places to meet the demand from September 2016 onwards.

School capacity

5.

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

Based on the current published admission number of 30, the maximum capacity of the school is 210. However, the current net capacity assessment for this school indicates that the current physical site capacity is 192. The proposed future capacity would be increased to 420.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The current published admission number for the school is 30. The proposed admission number for the enlarged school will be 60.

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

N/A

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

N/A

- (e) A statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The current number of pupils on roll at the school is 205.

6. Additional site

- a) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

The proposed expansion would involve providing additional accommodation on the school's playing field. In order to meet the requirements of the Section

77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, Lancashire County Council has acquired an additional piece of land that adjoins the existing site, which will be used to replace the school's playing field.

- b) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

N/A

Changes in boarding arrangements

7. Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in Paragraph 12 of Schedule 2 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

- (a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

N/A

- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

N/A

- (d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

N/A

7A. Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in Paragraph 12 of Schedule 2 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 —

(a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

N/A

(b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

N/A

Transfer to new site

8. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information:

(a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

N/A

(b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

N/A

(c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

N/A

(d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

N/A

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

N/A

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

N/A

Objectives

9. The objectives of the proposals.

The objective is to ensure that there are sufficient school places in the area, in response to an increase in pupil numbers as a result of increased birth rates and housing development in the local area.

The proposal is to permanently expand the school to admit 30 additional pupils to each reception year with effect from September 2016, through the provision of additional permanent accommodation on the existing school site. The expansion would increase the school's admission number to 60, leading to Primrose Hill Primary School's capacity increasing from 192 to 420.

Sex of pupils

10. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

N/A

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (Paragraph 3 of Schedule 11 of the Equality Act 2010)

N/A

11. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

N/A

Need or demand for additional places

12. If the proposals involve adding places:

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

As a result of the recent growth in the number of births in the local area, coupled with increased demand from local housing development, the number of school places currently available will not be enough to meet the increased demand as the children reach school age. There is a permanent need for at least 47 additional primary places by 2017. Pupil projections indicate that demand for primary school places in this area will increase significantly in future years, as a result of local housing development. The approval of the proposal to permanently expand Primrose Hill Primary School will help to address part of this demand and ensure, so far as is reasonably possible, that every child is provided with a school place in close proximity to their home.

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

13. Expansion of successful and popular schools

- (a) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies evidence to support this.

Primrose Hill Primary School is a successful and popular community primary school. In response to an increase in the Euxton birth rate, and increasing levels of demand resulting from housing development a Basic Need expansion scoping exercise was carried out in the area during 2014. Following this exercise and after consultation with primary schools in the Euxton area, it was concluded that Primrose Hill Primary School offered an appropriate location for school expansion to meet part of the shortfall in the area. (An additional proposal for the expansion of another primary school to meet the further requirement for places is currently ongoing.)

The school has been over-subscribed for the past 4 years and has achieved an 'Outstanding' rating in its last Ofsted inspection, in November 2011. There is a forecasted increase in the demand for reception places. Recent consultations have confirmed the support for the expansion of this school. Lancashire County Council does consider that the presumption for the expansion of this school should apply.

Consultation

14. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and

- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

The consultation document was widely circulated to staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils of the school subject to the proposals. Headteachers and governors of other local schools in Lancashire were all consulted, as were members of local borough council. A full list of consultees is detailed on page 8 of the consultation document which forms an integral element to these complete proposals.

An appointment led event, rather than a public meeting, was held between 3pm and 8pm on Tuesday 27th January 2015 at Primrose Hill Primary School. This format of meeting is preferred as it allows the authority to manage the process effectively; to minimise waiting times and ensure that appropriate officers are available to offer any interested parties, either individually or in small groups, advice and guidance to enable them to gain a better understanding on all of the aspects of the proposals.

LCC officers met with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors in the run up to consulting on these proposals. An LCC officer subsequently attended a Governing Body meeting, where Governors were provided with the opportunity to raise concerns, ask questions and seek further information. The Governing Body confirmed that it was in support of the proposals.

A children's consultation was undertaken by the school, in which pupils of the school were asked to express their opinion on the proposal. The views from the meetings, the written responses to the consultations, and the children's consultation are detailed and analysed in the report to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools that was considered on 7th April 2015. This forms an integral element to these complete proposals.

Consultation documents were widely circulated in hard copy and were made available on the following website:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolorganisationreviews

This website allows access to the public notice and complete proposal documentation for these proposals.

Copies of the consultation document were put on deposit at the school, local libraries and Chorley Town Hall. Additional hard copies were available from County

Hall.

All relevant statutory requirements regarding consultation on these proposals were complied with.

Project costs

- 15.** A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local authority, and any other party.

The delivery of additional primary school places will require capital funding. It is anticipated that a project to extend the accommodation at the school will cost in the region of £3.76 million. This funding has been identified within the current capital programme.

None to the costs relating to the provision of additional places will be met by the school.

- 16.** A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Education Funding Agency (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The cost of the proposal has been included in the current capital programme, which was agreed via Cabinet Member approval on 5th June 2014.

The site is already within the authority's ownership.

Extended services

- 17.** If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

N/A