

Notice of Meeting

Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning Decisions

**Date & time**

Monday, 3
September 2018 at
1.30 pm

Place

Committee Room B -
County Hall, Kingston
upon Thames, KT1
2DN

Contact

Andrew Baird
Room 122, County Hall
Tel 020 8541 7609

Chief Executive

Joanna Killian

andrew.baird@surreycc.gov.uk

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This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact Emma O'Donnell on 020 8541 8987.

Elected Members

Mrs Mary Lewis (Cabinet Member for Education)

AGENDA

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter

- i. Any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or
- ii. Other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at this meeting

NOTES:

- Members are reminded that they must not participate in any item where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest
- As well as an interest of the Member, this includes any interest, of which the Member is aware, that relates to the Member's spouse or civil partner (or any person with whom the Member is living as a spouse or civil partner)
- Members with a significant personal interest may participate in the discussion and vote on that matter unless that interest could be reasonably regarded as prejudicial.

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

a Members' Questions

The deadline for Members' questions is 12pm four working days before the meeting (28 August 2018).

b Public Questions

The deadline for public questions is seven days before the meeting (27 August 2018).

c Petitions

The deadline for petitions was 14 days before the meeting, and no petitions have been received.

3 PROPOSED EXPANSION OF ST BEDE'S SCHOOL

(Pages 5
- 28)

St. Bede's School is ecumenical in nature, providing specifically for admission from both the Anglican and Catholic faiths. Surrey County Council, in partnership with the Governing Body of St. Bede's School, the Diocese of Southwark (Anglican Diocese) and the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton (Catholic Diocese), has consulted on a proposal to expand the school by two forms of entry from September 2019. The education consultation was conducted between 11 June 2018 and 9 July 2018.

The Cabinet Member is asked to review the education rationale for the project and summary of the consultation process/feedback provided within this report and associated annexes and, on that basis, decide whether to determine the associated Statutory Notice.

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SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET MEMBER FOR ALL-AGE LEARNING****DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2018****LEAD OFFICER: DAVID HILL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING****SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

St. Bede's School is ecumenical in nature, providing specifically for admission from both the Anglican and Catholic faiths. Surrey County Council, in partnership with the Governing Body of St. Bede's School, the Diocese of Southwark (Anglican Diocese) and the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton (Catholic Diocese), has consulted on a proposal to expand the school by two forms of entry from September 2019. The education consultation was conducted between 11 June 2018 and 9 July 2018.

The Cabinet Member is asked to review the education rationale for the project and summary of the consultation process/feedback provided within this report and associated annexes and, on that basis, decide whether to determine the associated Statutory Notice.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for All-Age Learning determines the Statutory Notice, thereby bringing into effect the formal expansion of St. Bede's School by two Forms of Entry (2FE) for September 2019.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

There is an increasing demand for primary school places around the Reigate and Redhill area which reflects a rise in the primary-age population over recent years that is beginning to transition into the secondary sector. In order to meet this demand, Surrey County Council (the Council) is overseeing an ongoing school expansion programme designed to increase the capacity of the school estate. The proposal to expand the capacity of St. Bede's School by 2FE is a core element of the Council's strategy to deliver additional places in this area. In line with this, the Council has undertaken the requisite statutory consultation to inform the decision-making process and a note of support for the proposal was received as part of this. For these reasons, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member determines the Statutory Notice (appended to this report as Annex 1), so as to bring the expansion of the school formally into effect.

DETAILS:**The Proposal**

1. On 11 June 2018, the Council published a proposal to:

- enlarge St. Bede’s School from nine forms of entry (9FE) at Year 7 to eleven forms of entry (11FE) at Year 7, to allow for a roll of 1,650, comprising eleven classes of 30 pupils in each year group; and
 - build additional permanent classrooms and ancillary space to facilitate this.
2. It was proposed that the above enlargement would be effective from 1 September 2019 and that the school would grow incrementally, year-on-year, as the higher intake works its way progressively through the age range. As such, the school would effectively reach its new capacity of 1,650 places in September 2023.

Reasons for the Proposal

3. Reigate & Banstead is experiencing a significant increase in the demand for school places reflecting both a rise in birth rate and increased house building and migration within the area. Births in the Borough in 2014 were 27.7% higher than births in 2002. The increased pupil cohort is now starting to make the transition into the secondary sector. As such, there is now the need to accommodate increased demand via the expansion of local secondary provision. To date this has been achieved via the permanent expansion of The Warwick School by 1FE in 2017/18, as well as offering bulge year classes at St. Bede’s School for the 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 academic years. However, in order to keep up with demand, additional capacity is required moving forwards.
4. Within the Reigate & Redhill planning area, there is presently provision for 1,023 places per year in Year 7, composed of the following:
- Reigate School (offering 250 Year 7 places per annum);
 - Royal Alexandra and Albert School (offering 113 Year 7 places per annum);
 - St. Bede’s School (offering 270 Year 7 places per annum);
 - The Warwick School (offering 210 Year 7 places per annum); and
 - Merstham Park School (offering 180 Year 7 places per annum).
5. Demand for secondary school places in Reigate and Redhill is projected to rise over the coming years in line with the general increase across the whole of the Reigate and Banstead Borough area. Projections of future demand for school places are presented in the below table:

Year	Y7 PAN	Y7 Projection	Deficit
2019/20	1,023	1,010	13
2020/21	1,023	1,012	11
2021/22	1,023	1,058	- 35
2022/23	1,023	1,101	- 78
2023/24	1,023	1,125	- 102
2024/25	1,023	1,105	- 82
2025/26	1,023	1,128	- 105
2026/27	1,023	1,113	- 90
2027/28	1,023	1,105	- 82

6. As can be seen from the above, there is a sustained need for additional secondary places in the area. A core component of the strategy devised to meet this need is the proposed expansion of St. Bede's by 2FE, which, if approved, would reduce all of the above projected deficits by 60 places as shown in the below table:

Year	Y7 PAN	Y7 Projection	Deficit
2019/20	1,083	1,010	73
2020/21	1,083	1,012	71
2021/22	1,083	1,058	25
2022/23	1,083	1,101	- 18
2023/24	1,083	1,125	- 42
2024/25	1,083	1,105	- 22
2025/26	1,083	1,128	- 45
2026/27	1,083	1,113	- 30
2027/28	1,083	1,105	- 22

7. There is also good evidence to suggest that there are insufficient places for Catholic families in the area. At present, there are approximately 110 places available at St. Bede's for Catholic applicants. The Catholic primary schools in the Redhill Deanery currently have a combined published admission number (PAN) of 150.
8. Where possible, the Council's strategy is to expand high quality provision that meets parental demand whilst also ensuring that there is a diverse pattern of provision so as to provide families with some element of choice. The most recent Ofsted report on the school from January 2017 rates the school as 'Outstanding'. In particular, this report noted that "a zest for learning permeates the whole school. Teachers' high expectations mean that pupils are ambitious for their own futures and approach their learning with determination and resilience". The evident quality of education provision at St. Bede's was a key reason underpinning the move to expand this school and thereby increase the provision of high-quality school places to the local community.

School Building Requirements

9. The school site has sufficient capacity to enable expansion in its existing location. Naturally, though, a building programme will be required to provide the permanent facilities to allow for the increase in pupil intake. To this end, the Council has allowed for an appropriate capital sum for this project, within the Basic Need Capital Programme element of its Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)
10. The proposal consists of both new build and refurbishment works. The new build consists of an extension to the art block to provide IT classrooms and an extension to the main teaching block to relocate and provide new science laboratories as well as English and maths classrooms. Refurbishment and adaptations of existing buildings to create specialist teaching spaces.

CONSULTATION:

11. The increase in admission number was the subject of a Council-led consultation process which was held for a four-week period, between 11 June 2018 and 9 July 2018. This process engaged a range of interested stakeholders, including the school community, local residents, local admissions authorities and the Surrey School Admissions Forum. On 21 June 2018, a consultation evening was held at the school, to which all interested parties were invited.
12. In all, six responses were made to the consultation, with three being opposed to the expansion; two in support; and one unspecified. The feedback from the consultation exercise raised the following issues:
 - **Faith-based admissions policy** – two respondents raised concerns regarding the fact that Surrey was proposing to expand a school with faith-based admissions criteria. The respondents stated that they would likely support the expansion of places in “secular” provision. By way of response, it is worth noting that St. Bede’s is the only secondary school with a religious character in the Reigate and Banstead Borough. In order to meet the demand for additional school places, the Council has planned the following elements of new provision:
 - 300 new places at St. Bede’s School;
 - 300 new places at Oakwood School;
 - 150 new places at The Warwick School; and
 - 900 new places at Merstham Park Free School.

Overall, then, the “faith-based” places provided at St. Bede’s comprise less than 20% of the overall number of additional places planned. This is not considered to be an unduly large figure, considering the profile of demand and the popularity of the schools concerned.

- **Traffic and Parking** – one respondent expressed concern in relation to traffic and parking around the school during peak pick-up and drop-off times and the potential for this situation to be exacerbated as a consequence of the proposed expansion. The respondent noted that Carlton Road, in particular, was laden with such traffic. In order to address such concerns and as a fundamental part of the process of expansion the School Travel Plan will be updated so as to ensure that it reflected the growing nature of the school and the need to promote more sustainable modes of transport to and from the school site. To support this an additional 30 cycle spaces are due to be installed on the schools as part of the expansion scheme. In addition, the planning consent for the scheme requires that parking restrictions be instated on the north side of Carlton Road which should alleviate the traffic and parking issues identified.
- **Site Capacity** – one respondent expressed concern in relation to the capacity of the facilities to accommodate the proposed increase in pupil numbers. The particular areas highlighted in this respect were the hall, the canteen, and the external play space. The school has been fully involved in the development of the design in relation to the expansion project and are content that the solution devised provides sufficient capacity to provide for the anticipated pupil numbers. Building Bulletin 103 guidance

for school buildings has been used to inform design and scaling matters in this respect.

- Surplus Places** – one response was received from another school in the area. The feedback was provided by GLF Schools, the academy sponsor for the new Merstham Park School which opens in September 2018. Due to the length of the response it is provided in full as Annex 2 to this report. The principal concern identified by GLF Schools is that there are surplus school places forecast for the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years and that the expansion of St. Bede’s School would therefore “result in vacant places at other local secondary schools, at a time when every school is facing significant financial challenges”. As noted in the response, on the basis of the pupil forecasts the expansion of St. Bede’s by 2FE would create a surplus of 73 places in September 2019 and 71 places in September 2020. Whilst this is accurate, it should be noted that the temporary planning application for Merstham Park School provides sufficient accommodation for an intake of 4FE over its first two years of operation (rather than the 6FE that will be its long-term capacity). As such, the proposed expansion of St. Bede’s effectively acts as a “buffer” for Merstham Park School operating at below capacity in those two years and the actual physical capacity of the school system would only leave the 13 (2019) and 11 (2020) surplus places quoted in the table in Section 5. This level of surplus places is well within the Audit Commission’s recommendation of 5% surplus capacity within any given schools system. If the St. Bede’s expansion were to be approved, the forecast demand relative to the school system’s operational capacity would be as shown in the below table:

Year	Y7 PAN	Y7 Projection	Deficit
2019/20	1,023	1,010	13
2020/21	1,023	1,012	11
2021/22	1,083	1,058	25
2022/23	1,083	1,101	- 18
2023/24	1,083	1,125	- 42
2024/25	1,083	1,105	- 22
2025/26	1,083	1,128	- 45
2026/27	1,083	1,113	- 30
2027/28	1,083	1,105	- 22

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

- There are naturally risks associated with the building project required to facilitate this expansion. Ultimately these are, in large part, related to cost and programme, i.e. the capacity to deliver the requisite project within the defined financial parameters in line with the timeline for increased demand. A Risk Register is being maintained and updated on a regular basis by the Project Manager of the scheme and this should serve to both mitigate risk (in part) and to provide early foresight of any issues as they materialise. A contingency allowance appropriate to the scheme has been included within the project budget to mitigate for potential identified risks.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

14. The building project associated with this proposal is included in the 2017-22 MTFP. A scheme of works has been developed and agreed by Cabinet on 28 February 2018. All schemes are expected to remain within the funding that has been allocated to them in the MTFP.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

15. The basic need expansion scheme for this school is included in the school basic need programme of works and has a funding allocation in the 2017-22 MTFP.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

Consultation

16. In considering this report, the Cabinet Member must give due regard to the results of the consultation as set out above, and the response of the Service to the consultation comments and conscientiously take these matters into account when making its final decision.

Best Value Duty

17. The best value duty is contained in s3 of the Local Government Act 1999 as a result of which the Council is under a duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The relevant guidance states that Councils should consider overall value, including economic, environmental and social value when reviewing service provision.

School Expansion

18. Section 13 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on the Council to ensure that efficient primary and secondary education is available to meet the needs of the population in its area. In doing so, the Council is required to contribute to the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community. Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on the Council to secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available in its area. There is a legal duty on the Council therefore to secure the availability of efficient education in its area and sufficient schools to enable this.
19. This report sets out how the Authority will meet its duties in response to increasing demand for school places in Reigate & Redhill, in line with the general increase across the whole of Reigate and Banstead Borough.
20. As the school's capacity and PAN will be increased, a consultation and publication of notices was required. Responses to the consultation were considered carefully and the School Organisation Guidance and Admissions Code 2014 were duly followed.

Equalities and Diversity

21. The expansion of the school will not create any issues that would require the production of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA), as no group with protected characteristics will be adversely affected as a consequence of its approval, or otherwise.
22. The new school building will comply with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) regulations.
23. The Admissions arrangements give the highest priority to Looked After Children (LAC) and children with exceptional medical or social needs thus supporting provision for the county's most vulnerable children. Priority is then given to those who attend an Anglican or Roman Catholic Church, followed by siblings of pupils already attending the school and those living within the school's catchment area. Remaining applicants are then sorted on the basis of distance from home to school. There is no proposal to amend the admissions criteria, which are fully compliant with the School Admissions Code.

Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

24. This proposal would provide increased provision for secondary places in the area which would be of benefit to the community served by the school. This would therefore also be of benefit to any Looked After Children who have the opportunity of attending the school with this grouping of children receiving the highest priority ranking within the school's admission arrangements.

Climate change/carbon emissions implications

25. The design philosophy is to create buildings that will support low energy consumption, reduce solar gain and promote natural ventilation. The school will be built to the local planning authority's adopted core planning strategy. In addition, the provision of additional school places to meet local demand is likely to have a positive impact on reducing journey times (and therefore carbon emissions), relative to the scenario of not so doing.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

26. Subject to Cabinet Member approval of the recommendation of this report, the next steps are to expand the school, in line with the proposal formally agreed by Cabinet on 13 June 2017.

Contact Officer:

Oliver Gill, School Commissioning Officer, Tel: 020 8541 7383

Consulted:

St. Bede's School Governing Body
Parents of pupils attending the school
Local residents
Diocese of Southwark
Diocese of Arundel & Brighton
Local Headteachers
Liz Mills, Assistant Director for Schools and Learning

Jonathan Essex, Local County Council Member for Redhill East
Natalie Bramhall, Local County Council Member for Redhill West and Meadvale
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
Unions (NEU; NASUWT)
School Admissions Forum

Annexes:

Annex 1 – St. Bede’s School Statutory Notice (Full)
Annex 2 – GLF Schools Consultation Response Form

Sources/background papers:

- St. Bede’s School Consultation Document

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS:

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011, that Surrey County Council, in cooperation with the Governing Body of St. Bede's School, the Diocese of Southwark and the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, intends to make a significant change to **St. Bede's School**.

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

N/A

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school.

St. Bede's School, Carlton Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 2LQ
(Voluntary Aided)

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. 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.

From September 2019, it is proposed to enlarge St. Bede's School from nine forms of entry (9FE) at Year 7 to eleven forms of entry (11FE) at Year 7. The school will expand incrementally year on year, as the higher intake of 330 pupils works its way progressively through the age range. As such, the total capacity of the school would be permanently increased from 1,350 to 1,650 pupils and it would reach its full capacity in 2023.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
 - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

This is a four week consultation, which begins on Monday 11 June 2018 and concludes at midday on Monday 9 July 2018. Any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending representations to:

Oliver Gill, Surrey County Council, Room 326, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DN

Alternatively, representations can be made by email to:

schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

The consultation can also be accessed from the Surrey County Council website:

www.surreysays.co.uk

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.

To enlarge St. Bede's School from nine forms of entry (9FE) at Year 7 to eleven forms of entry (11FE) at Year 7, from September 2019.

School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (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;

The school would be enlarged from a 1,350-place Secondary School, 270 places per year from Year 7 to Year 11, to a 1,650-place Secondary School, 330 places per year from Year 7 to Year 11.

- (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 (PAN) for the school is 270. Under this proposal, the PAN would be increased to 330 from 2019 onwards.

- (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;

330 pupils would be admitted into Year 7 in September 2019 and in each subsequent Year 7 thereafter. The school would grow incrementally, year-on-year, as the higher intake of 330 pupils works its way progressively through the age range.

- (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

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

As at the October 2017 Census, there were 1442 pupils on roll in Year 7 to Year 11 and 282 pupils on roll at the VI Form at St. Bede's School.

Implementation

6. 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 education 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 statutory proposal would be determined by Surrey County Council and implemented by the Governing Body of St. Bede's School. The building works to enable this proposal would be delivered by Surrey County Council.

Additional Site

7.— (1) 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.

No additional site is required in order to facilitate these proposals.

(2) 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

8.—(1) 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 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(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

9. 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;

The school will remain on its existing site.

(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

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The proposal to expand the school is in response to the local demand for secondary school places at this school and a basic need for more school places in the Reigate and Redhill area. This is demonstrated by several years of demand, together with future pupil forecasts (based on birth, migration and housing development data), and forms part of a borough-wide expansion programme, aimed at providing sufficient school places to meet the projected levels of demand.

Consultation

11. 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.

An explanatory consultation document has been made available to the public via the Council's website: www.surreysays.co.uk

All appropriate parties have been made aware of this proposal, inclusive of the Governing Body of the school. A public meeting will be held at St. Bede's School on Thursday 21 June 2018.

The following people have been made aware of the proposals: parents/carers of children attending the school; employees and Governors of the school; the Diocese of Southwark; the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton; relevant unions; local residents; other local schools; local borough and county councillors; and the School Admissions Forum.

Project costs

12. 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 education authority, and any other party.

The cost of the proposed project will be funded through Surrey County Council's Schools Basic Need Capital Programme and funding for this scheme is included in the current 2017-22 Medium Term Financial Plan.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State and/or local education authority that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

Surrey County Council's Section 151 Finance Officer has approved the expenditure for this expansion project.

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

N/A

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

N/A

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

N/A

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

N/A

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

N/A

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

N/A

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

N/A

- (b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

N/A

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

N/A

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

N/A

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

N/A

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

The proposal will not change arrangements for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

- (b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

N/A

- (c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

N/A

- (d) details of how the provision will be funded;

N/A

- (e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

N/A

- (f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

N/A

- (g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

N/A

- (h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

N/A

- (i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

N/A

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

- (a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

N/A

- (b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

N/A

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

N/A

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

N/A

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

N/A

Sex of pupils

21. 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 (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

N/A

22. 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

Extended services

23. 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.

The proposal will not have a negative impact on the provision of the school's extended services.

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

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

Reigate & Banstead is experiencing a significant increase in the demand for school places, reflecting both a significant rise in birth rate and increased house building and migration within the area. Births in the Borough in 2014 were 27.7% higher than births in 2002. A significant number of primary school places have been provided reflective of this demand and this increased pupil cohort is now starting to make the transition into the secondary sector. As such, there is now the need to accommodate increased secondary demand, via a corresponding expansion of secondary schools. If approved, this proposal would provide 300 additional secondary places within Reigate and Redhill that would, in part, help to bridge the projected gap between the supply of and demand for school places.

- (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;

St Bede's has an Anglican, Free church and Roman Catholic foundation and the governors seeks to educate the children of Christian families in the Redhill and Reigate deanary. With rising numbers of people living in the local area the governors have been forced to turn away children of regular worshippers in recent years and a rise in the pupil admission number will help them meet parental demand.

- (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

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

N/A

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

N/A

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) 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.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

Being rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, the school has a strong reputation and is oversubscribed for school places. For September 2018, the school received 455 1st preferences, and 899 preferences overall. Expanding this school will promote

parental preference, by allowing the Governing Body to admit applicants who name the school as their preferred option.

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Consultation Response Form

Proposal to expand St. Bede's School from 1,350 to 1,650 places, from September 2019

Please give us your views. Please tick the box that best shows what you think of the following questions and also give us any comments you have. You can write on the other side of this sheet if you want more space to write comments.

1. Do you agree with the proposal to expand St. Bede's School from September 2019?

Agree

Don't know

Disagree

Comments:

Based on the data shown within this consultation, offering an additional 2fe at St. Bede's from September 2019 would create a surplus of 73 places in September 2019 and 71 places in September 2020. Even in September 2021 there would be still be a surplus of 25 places which could conceivably be accommodated across the 5 secondary schools (each admitting an additional 5 students above PAN). There is not a demonstrable need for additional places until September 2022.

It should also be taken into consideration that the data quoted within this consultation may not be an accurate picture of actual places required for September 2019.

The equivalent data for September 2018 showed a projected need for 981 places. In practice, despite 1074 first preference applications there are currently 926 students on roll for September (based on information from Surrey Admissions in June 2018, stating that each secondary school other than Merstham Park was full at PAN and 83 students are on roll for Merstham Park). It is well recognised that this planning area sees a number of students move to the independent sector each year, after applying for and often accepting places at local schools.

Therefore introducing two additional forms of entry in September 2019 will result in vacant places at other local secondary schools, at a time when every school is facing significant financial challenges. This is irresponsible.

We understand that there is a desire to offer sufficient places to Catholic families whose children attend local catholic primary schools. The consultation states that 110 places are offered to Catholic families, compared to the 150 places available at Catholic primary schools. In practice, the admissions arrangements for St. Bede's allocates 220 places to children whose parent/carer is a member of an Anglican or Roman Catholic Church; therefore it is possible that more than 110 places are available for children from Catholic families.

It is also important to acknowledge that in September 2017 and September 2018 St. Bede's has already admitted one additional form of entry, without formally consulting to increase its PAN (as bulge classes). A compromise position would be for the PAN to be increased initially to 300 to continue to offer this one form of entry, which would accommodate the additional 30 Catholic places.

It is our usual experience that any school expansion is discussed with local Heads prior to consultation and we have always been assured in our discussion with officers at SCC that any further expansion of St. Bede's would be very carefully considered. This is confirmed in an email

from Oliver Gill to Sarah Lynagh dated 31 October 2017 stating: "In line with the School Organisation Regulations, the formal expansion of the school's PAN is a matter that can only be determined by the LA. I will keep you in the loop about this, but please be assured that St. Bede's cannot simply unilaterally decide on their PAN and, further, that SCC is very sensitive to the need to minimise over-provision in this area at this stage."

It is our firm belief that an increase to a PAN of 330 should not take place for September 2019 as this will create a surplus of places in the area and create financial issues for other local schools, which will ultimately put at risk the quality of provision that those schools are able to offer their students. This is not in the best interests of the community as a whole.

We are aware that the building works to provide accommodation for the additional 2FE are already underway, if not complete, and therefore the Local Authority would retain the option of offering a bulge class for September 2019 (or the following years) in the exceptional circumstance that the demand for places does indeed exceed the PAN available.

Please tick the boxes that apply to you.

- A parent/carer of a child at the school
- A parent/carer of a child in an Early Years setting
- A parent/carer of a child who may in future attend the school
- A parent/carer of a child at another school
- Someone who works at the school
- A Governor of the school
- Some other link to the school

Someone else with an interest – please give details

GLF Schools, academy sponsor for Merstham Park School

It would also be helpful if you could give your postcode

n/a

Please return to:

Oliver Gill (St. Bede's School Consultation)
 Room 326
 County Hall
 Penrhyn Road
 Kingston-upon-Thames
 Surrey
 KT1 2DN
 email: schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

Please tick if you have written comments on the other side