

Proposed enlargement, and increase in the admission number, of Heathfield Junior School

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, on behalf of the Governors of Heathfield Junior School, intends to make a prescribed alteration to Heathfield Junior School, Cobbett Road, Twickenham, TW2 6EN, from 1 September 2013.


It is proposed that with effect from the 2013/2014 school year intake, the admission number of the school should be permanently increased to 480.

The current capacity of the school is 360 and the proposed capacity will be 480. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 302. The current admission number for the school is 90 and the proposed admission number will be 120.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Matthew Paul, Head of School Commissioning, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ; m.paul@richmond.gov.uk, 020 8891 7588; or from www.richmond.gov.uk.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, no later than Friday 2 December 2011, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to:

Matthew Paul, Head of School Commissioning, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ.

Signed: 

Publication Date: 4 November 2011

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS

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 LA Proposal: School and local authority details

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

Heathfield Junior School, Cobbett Road, Twickenham, TW2 6EN.

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ.

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.

1 September 2013. The Year 3 class intake for the 2013/2014 school year will be 120. The admission number will increase to 120 for Year 4 in 2014/2015, to 120 for Year 5 in 2015/2016 and to 120 for Year 6 in 2016/2017.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including—
- (a) the date 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.

Objections and/or comments should be sent by no later than Friday 2 December 2011 to: Matthew Paul, Head of School Commissioning, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Civic Centre, 44 York Street, Twickenham, TW1 3BZ; m.paul@richmond.gov.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.

It is proposed that from the 2013/2014 Year 3 class intake, the school should be increased in size from three-form to four-form entry, i.e. its published admission number should be increased from 90 to 120.

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 or paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007, 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 current capacity of the school is 360; and the proposed capacity, by 2016/2017 when each year-group will have an admission number of 120, will be 480.

- (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 of the school is 90 in each year-group.

- (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;

The Year 3 class intake for the 2013/2014 school year will be 120. The admission number will increase to 120 for Year 4 in 2014/2015, to 120 for Year 5 in 2015/2016 and to 120 for Year 6 in 2016/2017.

- (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.

The school is below its admission number in each year-group except Year 3: Year 4 – 80; Year 5 – 62; Year 6 – 70.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 to 4, and 7 and 8 of Schedule 2 or paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of

As at September 2011, there are 302 pupils on roll.

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 proposal will be implemented by the Local Authority on behalf of, and in liaison with, the Governing Body.

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.

N/A.

(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 7 or 14 of Schedule 2 or 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 —

(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;

N/A.

- (d) 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 7 or 14 of Schedule 2 or 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 —

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

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;

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;

N/A.

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

N/A.

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The expansion of the school to three-form entry will meet the need for additional school places in the Heathfield and Whitton planning area. The Authority's reception class forecasts indicate that there will be a consistent shortfall of places per year in this areas from 2012/2013 onwards:

School year	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Births	253	313	325 (est.)	335 (est.)
Forecast no. of reception pupils	357	422	432	440
Capacity (without expansions)	330	330	330	330
Forecast shortfall	-27	-92	-102	-110

Without the additional places that this proposal will provide, the Authority would be wholly reliant upon a strategy of providing *temporary* additional places, which is considered to be a less than ideal solution compared with permanent expansion, given that the shortfall of places is predicted to continue for the next decade unless additional places are made available. It would also represent poor value for money compared with permanent expansion.

The school has sufficient space for expansion and, is a popular and successful school. Expansion will give the school a larger budget, which will enable the school to have a broader curriculum, with a greater variety of teaching expertise and specialisms.

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.

(a) The Governing Body has been consulted at its meetings in 2011, most notably on 29 June. A consultation meeting was held at the school on 18 October 2011, and the notes of that meeting are appended to this document.

(b) & (c) Views expressed at the meeting on 18 October 2011 are contained within the minutes of that meeting, which are appended to this document.

(d) All statutory requirements have been complied with in respect of this proposal.

(e) See (a).

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.

All costs will be met by the Local Authority. The total capital costs, for expanding the school and Heathfield Infant and Nursery School are currently estimated at £4.5m.

*As a Local Authority owned community school, any capital developments are not subject to VAT. All VAT paid on building works, fees and equipment can be claimed back.

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

The costs will be borne from a variety of sources, including DfE Primary Capital Programme and Section 106 receipts.

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 three miles of the school;

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. (1) 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—

- (a) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (b) increase participation in education or training; and
- (c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area.

N/A.

(2) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school will provide sixth form education, 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;

N/A.

- (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;

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;

N/A.

- (d) a statement as to how the authority believe 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;

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;

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 provision of nursery education places will not be affected by the proposals.

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;

The expansion of the school to three-form entry will meet the need for additional school places in the Heathfield and Whitton planning area. The Authority's reception class forecasts indicate that there will be a consistent shortfall of places per year in this areas from 2012/2013 onwards:

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Without the additional places that this proposal will provide, the Authority would be wholly reliant upon a strategy of providing *temporary* additional places, which is considered to be a less than ideal solution compared with permanent expansion, given that the shortfall of places is predicted to continue for the next decade unless additional places are made available. It would also represent poor value for money compared with permanent expansion.

The school has sufficient space for expansion and, is a popular and successful school. Expansion will give the school a larger budget, which will enable the school to have a broader curriculum, with a greater variety of teaching expertise and specialisms.

- (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.

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;

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) paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 and paragraphs 12 and 13 of Part 2 to Schedule 2; ;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 to Schedule 4.

of the Prescribed Alteration regulations.

(3) Whilst not required by regulations to provide this information for any LA proposals to expand a voluntary or foundation school, it is desirable to provide this below.

The Local Authority considers that Heathfield Junior is a popular and successful school. The school has been regularly oversubscribed, and has become increasingly popular, in recent years. The recent numbers of applications for the 90 places at the school are as follows:

School year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total applications	72	74	66	86	89

The overall effectiveness of the school was rated as 'good', with 'good capacity for sustained improvement', in its last [Ofsted inspection](#), in March 2011.

Heathfield Nursery & Infant School Heathfield Junior School

Parent Consultation Meeting on School Expansion
18 October 2011

No. in attendance 23 – Parents, staff and governors from both schools.
Also attending from the LA, Matthew Paul, Head of Schools Commissioning and
Beverley Butler, Client Side Manager, Building Development Team.

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Matthew introduced himself and gave a presentation of the proposals to expand the  
infant and junior schools.

Questions from the audience;

### **Where will the classrooms go?**

- MP and BB explained work has been done with both schools and many options had been discussed. BB explained it was the intention not to have demountable classrooms on the site.
- The design team would be appointed in November and proposals would then be developed in the period December through to May.
- There would be pre-planning consultation in late February/early March where the community as a whole would be invited to consider the plans.

### **Is that too late for any opinion to be properly considered?**

- MP explained that the governors of both schools had given an in-principle decision to go ahead with expansion subject to the design being approved.
- The statutory proposal to expand would run in parallel to the building design and planning approval. The application to the Planning department would need to be submitted in March 2012.

### **Could the local church schools offer more places?**

- MP stated the LA had no power over the church admission process and that historically community parents would prefer their children to attend community and not church schools.
- From a buildings perspective BB explained that planning permission would not be given to a site as small as Bishop Perrin as the building would be closely overlooked by residents.

### **Would it not be better to open church schools to the community?**

MP clarified the admission criteria for church schools and reiterated the LA did not have power to amend the criteria.

### **Why are there two church schools in an area of community need?**

MP drew attention to increased demand through recent years placing demand on all schools and the LA's statutory duty to find place for all children.

### **Why won't the church schools be affected by the expanding population?**

MP explained all schools locally are full and that there may be a need to provide more church schools in the local area in due course, as had already happened elsewhere in the borough.

**It is believed that parents from better off families get their children into Catholic schools.**

- MP disputed this claim. It was noted that first preference places are not always offered. It was agreed that there was not enough Catholic provision on this side of the borough.
- The need for community places had been proved by the need for a bulge class at the infant school for the last two years.

**Why expand this school?**

MP explained that the school has the leadership as an improving school and that the expansion would benefit both schools.

**Will extra funding come even if the schools don't expand?**

BB clarified that funding had been granted by the government for expansion. The LA was not able to commit to refurbishment as expansion was a priority and felt the school would benefit from permanent expansion and the funds that would release. The Capital funding has to provide places and the LA has to do it's best to provide those places across the borough.

**Does any money given to the school depend on Ofsted results? The church schools are outstanding so do they have more money?**

No, funding for capital projects would be based on additional children.

**What about extra cars dropping off an additional 180 pupils?**

BB said the design team were fully briefed and well aware of issues such as these and this would all be taken into account when the detail is considered. Any suggestions would be welcomed by the team.

**This school was my third choice and I have to travel by car to get here – what about parking?**

- BB explained she is aware of the limitations but the LA had to do its best to consider the whole community in being able to offer places.
- MP asked parents to note that without bulge classes, 169 pupils would not have had a place at primary level for this year. The LA does not want to cause parents unnecessary stress by putting children on waiting lists for places at local schools if places could be provided at the initial allocations stage.
- Bulge classes are only a temporary solution and would much rather plan for the future by providing permanent solutions.

**Could we not expand the school into surrounding land?**

- BB cited an example of a proposed 4-18 school some years ago that was rejected due to the land being protected under planning regulations.
- It was felt the land is useful for the wider community. BB hoped the existing school site could provide a good basis for any development. The demountable would be removed and it was possible that a two-story build could help retain as much of the outside space as possible.

**Where will the extra children go? Parents need to know this before they agree with any proposals.**

- BB and MP explained the consultation process and where there would be opportunity for parents to be involved in the process.
- It was noted that expansion had already taken place in many other schools in the borough and their experience could be drawn upon, such as flexible use of space including staggered lunchtimes.

**Are there any other four-form entry schools in the borough?**

- Stanley Junior School expanded to incorporate the Infant and create a four-form entry primary school. BB explained that the benefit of expansion far outweighed the costs involved. It was noted that some London local authorities have six- and seven-form entry schools.
- Whilst some other schools had been looked at, it was felt that it was in Heathfield's interest that the school expanded and received some of the available funding.

**Is that because of a lack of land on which to build?**

MP said it was to invest in the school now to provide for the future. BB said if we had a limitless pot of money we could look into buying land but felt the school deserved newer facilities. Government funding had been cut for the perceived leafy borough and even when more became available, we would be bidding in competition with other boroughs with high demand for places.

**Parents asked the Headteachers present how they felt about expansion?**

- PC admitted it would be a challenge but that better facilities could benefit the school. Whilst it was acknowledged that we have a large site, any plans would need to retain as much space as possible. PC was optimistic that if the plans were right and the build was as good as promised it would be good for both schools.
- On behalf of the Infant, BU explained the school had already accepted two bulge classes and the school and staff have managed well. The provision must not be compromised and the school would continue to work with the LA to ensure that did not happen.

**But extra facilities have been promised when taking bulge classes?**

MP and BB explained that permanent expansion would allow the extra facilities to be planned for.

**So are the bulge classes going without?**

- BB explained the work already done to provide temporary solutions.
- Lunchtime and playtime with more children in the playground is a concern.
- The LA is well aware of the issues concerning use of outside space and this would be looked at in detail at the design phase.
- Governors explained the schools will need to be creative but the headteachers were more than capable of dealing with the issues that may arise.

**Will this affect class sizes?**

MP explained the class sizes are set by government and would not be affected by any expansion.

**Would the nursery size be affected at all by the expansion?**

The nursery size and application process would remain the same.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.