

Consultation on the proposal to enlarge Bordon Infant and Bordon Junior Schools

Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views about the proposal to enlarge Bordon Infant and Junior Schools.

We are running a consultation from the 9 January until the 10 February 2017.

Why do you need to enlarge the schools?

Throughout Hampshire the birth rate has risen in recent years which, has created a pressure on pupil places. This equally applies to the Bordon area and has resulted in an increase in pupil numbers.

Hampshire County Council anticipates that this level of demand will continue and therefore is proposing to enlarge Bordon Infant and Junior Schools to meet this need.

What building works will be taking place?

The proposed building works will consist of an extension to the current school buildings, together with some internal alterations. These works will provide the additional classrooms needed to meet the increase in pupil numbers.

The building plans are being developed with both Headteachers and Governing Bodies. The current plans will not be available at this stage for viewing on the school website.

It is planned that the building works will be completed by August 2019.

When will the building works start and how will you ensure the health and safety of pupils attending the schools whilst the works are taking place?

It is planned that the building works to create the permanent facilities will commence in late 2017 or early 2018 and be completed by August 2019. We will provide the schools with further details as the design work for the project progresses so the schools can keep you informed of progress and inform you of key dates.

Health and safety of children, staff and visitors is paramount. The County Council works with construction partners who have significant experience of working on school sites. A detailed health and safety plan will be drawn up with the schools to include items such as restricting delivery times for materials to avoid the beginning and end of the school day, maintaining safe access routes for pupils, staff and visitors etc.

What will be the impact on pupils within the schools?

Both schools will continue to operate as normal during the building works. Everything will be done to minimise the impact on pupils teaching and learning but we do acknowledge there may be some disruption. The County Council is liaising fully with the Headteachers and Governors on the project to ensure that the planning for the building works runs as smoothly as possible.

What about the impact on traffic due to the schools taking more pupils?

The County Council appreciates that local residents will be concerned about potential traffic implications around the expansion of the schools. By planning to create school places as close as possible to where children live we create the best chance for those children to make their way to school other than by car.

A School Travel Plan is a document produced by the whole school community and any other interested parties. It looks at how children, staff and visitors travel to and from school, and sets out measures to:

1. Encourage and enable pupils, parents, guardians and staff to walk and cycle to school.
2. Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to child travel and how this links to the environment, safety and health.
3. Improve safety.

The School Travel Plan will be reviewed as part of the process associated with the enlargement of the schools.

There will be an opportunity to discuss potential impact on school travel issues, at the initial consultation and again at the pre-planning consultation which will happen later in the year.

Will the schools receive additional funding due to the numbers increasing?

The funding of schools is based around the number of pupils on roll. As numbers increase, so will the funding.

What happens after this consultation?

This consultation will run until 10 February 2017. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage.

If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to enlarge the schools. It is anticipated that this will be published in March 2017.

After the date of publication there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May 2017.

Will I have the opportunity to discuss the proposal and ask questions?

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss both the Infant and Junior School proposals with County Council officers is planned for **Tuesday 17 January from 3pm to 6pm at Bordon Infant School.**

If you are unable to attend this session and wish to make a comment then please write to Martin Shefferd, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, E11 Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by **10 February 2016.**

How can my views be heard?

We will listen to views at the drop-in session.

We will also consider all responses received via e-mail or letter.

The closing date for responses is 10 February 2016.