



INITIAL CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO EXPAND
TOLLGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL
FROM 2 TO 3 FORMS OF ENTRY

INTRODUCTION

This paper sets out the initial proposal to permanently expand Tollgate Primary School from a two Form Entry to a three Form Entry Primary School.

Excluding the nursery class the current permanent capacity of the school is 420 and the proposed capacity will be 630.

It is written for Parents, Carers, Governors, Staff, Unions, Pupils and other people who have an interest in the school and in this proposal. This is the start of the public consultation process and you will have a number of opportunities to express your views. The Local Authority (LA) will consider all views and responses before taking the proposal forward.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

For several years we have had been experiencing a steep increase in the birth rate in Newham and we are now seeing large numbers of additional children arriving in our Primary Schools.

In order to manage this situation in the short term we have had a number of bulge years (an additional intake of reception age children over and above planned admission number) but this is obviously not sustainable in the longer term and therefore we have already expanded a number of schools across Newham and are proposed to continue by expanding Tollgate Primary School.



THE PROPOSALS

The School Expansion Proposal

It is proposed that Tollgate Primary School will be expanded from a Two-Form Entry to a Three-Form Entry School. The current permanent published admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

The expansion of Tollgate Primary School would be implemented gradually by an increase in the size of the reception year.

THE CAPITAL PROJECT

The intention is to fund the Capital Project from Newham's Basic Need Capital fund which is a Central Government funding allocation to help Councils to provide school places.

In order to increase the size of Tollgate Primary School it is proposed that classrooms and other facilities will be created by both internal remodelling and by adding a large extension to the main building.

These works is proposed start in the summer 2016 by refurbishing the kitchen and extend the size of the ground floor hall to accommodate larger assemblies and increasing dining space. It is proposed that the main building expansion works will complete in summer 2018.

STANDARDS

This proposal will contribute to raising standards of provision and will subsequently lead to improved attainment for Children and Young People. The design of the new building and refurbishment of existing buildings will provide greatly improved facilities designed specifically around the school's needs in order to provide an outstanding learning environment for the pupils of the school.

CHALLENGES AND ADVANTAGES

These proposals present an exciting opportunity for large scale investment in the schools' facilities and ultimately in the pupils' futures. These proposals can also provide an opportunity for more jobs for teachers and support staff as well as career development opportunities for existing staff.

The prospect of increasing the capacity at Tollgate Primary School to a three-form entry will allow the school to meet more of the community's needs, allowing more parents and children to access the school. The design of the new facilities will be in keeping with the designs of the original buildings at the school and will allow for children to be educated in classrooms fit for the 21st century.

Whilst there would be a significant period of construction to enable this proposal to be implemented, the phasing will be such that impact on curriculum delivery will be minimised.



IMPROVED CHOICE

This proposal will help meet parents choices the number of places being offered at the school will help every child and young person achieve their potential, in improved facilities.

THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Public Consultation Process involves the following steps:

- Distribution of Initial Consultation Document
- Meetings with Parents, Governors, Staff and Unions outlining the initial proposals followed by a consultation period for consideration of initial comments and responses
- Securing approval of Members within the Council requesting approval to proceed with the Issuing of the Public Notice.
- Publication of Public Notice followed by a six week consultation period
- Period of consideration of responses
- Take a Second report to Senior Officers within the Council to formally request approval to the expansion of the school and to proceed with the construction works.

HOW CAN I MAKE MY VIEWS KNOWN?

We would like to receive your comments in writing including your name, signature and address.

We would also be pleased to receive emails. Please send all emails to John.cochrane@newham.gov.uk and should you wish to discuss the proposals directly please call 020 3373 7820.

TO WHOM SHOULD I SEND MY COMMENTS?

Comments in writing should be sent to:

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