

Consultation on the proposal to enlarge Calthorpe Park School

Pre Planning Consultation Frequently Asked Questions

Proposal to Enlarge Calthorpe Park School for September 2021

Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views about the proposal to enlarge Calthorpe Park School.

We are running a consultation from **4 March until 1 April 2019**.

A drop-in session for you to be able to see the proposed plans and discuss the proposal with officers of the County Council is being held on **18 March 2019** at Calthorpe Park School between **4pm and 7pm**.

Why do you need to enlarge the school?

Throughout Hampshire the birth rate has risen in recent years which, has created a pressure on pupil places in the primary and secondary sector. This equally applies to the Fleet area, which together with significant levels of new housing has resulted in an increase in pupil numbers. Hampshire County Council anticipates that this level of demand will continue and is therefore proposing to enlarge Calthorpe Park School to meet this need.

Hampshire County Council is proposing to increase the physical capacity of Calthorpe Park School to allow them to offer 60 additional places in Year 7 (age 11+) from September 2021. This expansion will increase the Year 7 pupil admission number to 345 pupil places and create a total capacity of 1725 pupil places across all five year groups.

What building works will be taking place?

The building works to enlarge Calthorpe Park School are anticipated for completion in Summer 2021.

The proposed building works will consist of an additional block together with some internal alterations. These works will provide the additional classrooms and ancillary accommodation needed to meet the increase in pupil numbers.

Plans are available on the following website and will be presented at the drop-in session to be held on 18 March 2019 at the school.

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

It is planned that the building works to create the permanent facilities will commence in 2019 and be completed in July 2021, ready for the autumn term in 2021.

Health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors is paramount. The County Council works with our construction partners who have significant experience of working on school sites. A detailed health and safety plan will be drawn up with the school 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 school?

The school 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.

How will pupils travel to the school and will there be an impact from additional traffic in the local area?

In September 2018, the school had 1258 students on roll. Of those pupils on roll at the school the breakdown of how they travelled to school is as follows;

Calthorpe Park School Travel to School Census Data 2017/18

• Walk / Scoot	593	50.0%
• Cycle	88	7.4%
• Bus/Taxi	89	7.5%
• Train	1	0.1%
• Car Alone	341	28.8%
• Car Share	73	6.2%
• Total	1186	

Hampshire County Council appreciates that local residents will be concerned about potential traffic implications around the expansion of the school. 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 being developed working with the whole school community and 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 students and staff to walk and cycle to school.
2. Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to student travel and how this links to the environment, safety and health.
3. Improve safety.

The key stages involved in developing the travel plan are;

- Surveying pupils, parents and staff as to how they travel, the barriers that they may encounter, and suggestions as to improvements.

- Consultation with residents through the school enlargement and pre-planning consultation exercises to identify issues, relating to the school run, that are felt by the wider community along with possible solutions
- Working with key stakeholders to develop an action plan to target the issues that are preventing pupils, parents and staff from using alternatives to the car. The initiatives identified will be acted upon with the provision of additional cycle storage together with continued work with parents and students to educate and promote walking, cycling and scooting to school, thus reducing the reliance on the use of the car. It is acknowledged that for some parents they will have no alternative but to use the car and opportunities for parents to park legally and safely in the local area using 'Park and Stride' which are being identified.

The travel plan will link to a Transport Statement which will clearly define between measures that are essential to mitigate against the travel impact of the increase in pupil numbers, and desirable measures that will provide a general improvement to routes to school in the long term.

The STP Team has been in Hampshire since 2001 and has supported 97% of schools to develop their own travel plans. This has resulted in an 11% reduction (or 19,000 fewer journeys every morning) in car use, with a corresponding increase in walking by 12% and cycling by 4%.

Travel initiatives already underway with the school and plans for further work

Working with students

The school is already being proactive in allowing students to participate in a focus group to assist the travel planning team to develop new transition to secondary school resources, to enable more independent travel to school. The school actively promotes cycling to school and this can be demonstrated by the fact that 88 students, 7.4% cycle to school each day.

There is an aspiration that the school will maintain or increase the numbers walking all the way to school 50% (593 students) this being 2% below the Hampshire average but 4 % above the National average for walking to school. This continues the work started when the school last expanded from which we can see that walking increased from 47% to 50%. Further work will be done to promote more students walking at least part of the way to school by looking at suitable locations to drop and stride and by promoting walk with a friend from their house.

The work to embed this positive culture around walking, cycling and scooting within the school will continue over the next few years as the school grows. As each new year group is admitted to the school, work will be undertaken with parents and pupils to promote an ethos which avoids car use wherever possible. This will include undertaking a number of activities that promote health, wellbeing and road safety such as Bikeability training.

Promoting safe and legal areas for drop off and pick up by car.

The school travel plan encourages more students to travel by sustainable modes, however, it is understood that some parents will need to drive their children to school. Car sharing will be encouraged where possible and a transport study has been taken to assess any potential impact on the highway that the expansion may have, and propose measures to address these, if required.

Opportunities for Park and Stride sites will be identified through the school travel plan. These sites are located a short walking distance from the school to encourage parents to use safe and legal areas to park their car and accompany their child to

and from school. This is to avoid congestion immediately outside the school on local roads.

A transport statement will be developed for submission alongside the planning application. A transport statement is a process that sets out transport issues relating to a proposed development. It identifies any measures that may need to be taken to deal with the anticipated transport impacts of the scheme and to improve accessibility and safety for all modes of travel, particularly for alternatives to the car such as walking, cycling and public transport.

Where will the additional staff park?

In line with HCC's on-site school parking guidelines, parking for additional staff associated with the expansion will be catered for within the School site.

How will construction traffic be managed?

A construction traffic management plan will be developed to ensure safe and considerate movement of vehicles around the site during the construction period.

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

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposals with County Council officers is planned for **18 March 2019 from 4pm to 7pm at Calthorpe Park School.**

If you are unable to attend this session and wish to make a comment then please write to Mark Saunders, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by 1 April 2019.

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 1 April 2019.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please send responses and queries to Mark Saunders in the Strategic Development Team, Children's Services Department, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk