

Consultation on new facilities at Robert May's School

Pre-Planning Consultation Frequently Asked Questions

Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views about the proposal to submit a planning application to create new permanent facilities at the premises of Robert May's School.

We are running a consultation from **24 January until 6 March 2020**.

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 **5 February 2020** at **Robert May's School** between **3pm and 6pm**.

Why do you need to create new facilities?

Robert May's school is an academy with capacity for 1,350 students serving a large rural area of Hart including Hook and Odiham. The existing school site is currently undersized compared to Department for Education (DfE) guidelines and there is a need to acquire additional land suitable for playing field use, to meet the needs of both the existing and any planned increase in school capacity.

What building works will be taking place?

It is considered that the most suitable land to expand the school's playing field capacity comprises of an adjoining, presently unmanaged area of open land on the eastern side of the existing school site known as Bufton Field. This has an area of approximately 2.8 hectare (6.9 acres) and it is proposed that it will be used by the school to create a 115 x 64m playing surface to allow for either full sized rugby or football pitch markings and a 70 x 50m second pitch area to allow for 7 v 7 football pitch markings.

Plans are available on the following website and will be presented at the drop-in session to be held on 5 February 2020.

<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/>

Why do we need to consult again?

This new planning application will specifically supersede the previous application PP-05404971 for a very similar sports pitch proposal which was granted planning permission in on 25th Jan 2017. The main reason for the new application is due to the three-year permission deadline for commencement of development ending on 25th Jan 2020. This new application rationalises some aspects of the proposals including reducing the area of the development red line boundary, increasing the area of protected school fenced space and bringing forward the levelling to the smaller 'southern' pitch.

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?

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 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. The County Council is liaising fully with the headteacher and governors on the project to ensure that the planning for the building works runs as smoothly as possible.

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 **5 February 2020 from 3pm to 6pm** at Robert May's 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 6 March 2020.

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 6 March 2020.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please send responses 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