

Pre-planning consultation on the proposal to build a new 900 place secondary school on land at North Whiteley due to open in September 2027

Hampshire County Council wishes to consult with you ahead of the proposal to submit a planning application for a new secondary school at North Whiteley.

This pre-planning consultation will run from **Monday 2 September to Monday 30 September 2024**.

Why do you need a new school?

The demand for additional places arises as a result of significant housing development in Whiteley. The area around Whiteley in southern Hampshire has experienced significant re-development in recent years. Initial development provided 2,000 new homes and a further 3,500 homes are planned as part of the development known as North Whiteley, 1,500 of which are already occupied.

Predicting school place demand is a complex task. Where children go to school involves a range of different factors such as housing growth, inward and outward population migration as well as parental preference. As a result, planning for school places uses historical trends, immunisation and vaccination data, and some assumptions rather than certainties. While pupil forecasts are derived from sound methodology, external influences mean student forecasts come without a guarantee.

The school is being built to accommodate the children living in the existing Whiteley area along with the anticipated number of children forecast to live in the North Whiteley development.

Why is the school being built as a 900 place secondary school?

The school is being built with the capacity of 900 places (180 places per age group) in order to match the combined capacity at Whiteley Primary School and Cornerstone Primary School.

What plans are in place to future proof the site?

The site and school layout have been designed with space for the school to expand by a further 300 pupil places, if required in the future.

What will be the impact on other local secondary schools?

A separate consultation on the future education offer for children in Whiteley and Fareham took place between Thursday 28 March 2024 and Friday 31 May 2024. Feedback from that separate consultation, as well as a recommended way forward, will be presented for consideration to Councillor Roz Chadd, the County Council's Cabinet Lead Member for Children's

Services, at a Decision Day meeting on 25 October 2024. Further consultation will be undertaken as required, subject to the outcome of that Decision Day.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/secondary-school-whiteley>

Will the school have a resourced provision (RP) for children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)?

The school will have an 12-15 place Resourced Provision supporting pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan whose primary need is identified as Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or pupils with Social, Emotional, Mental Health (SEMH) needs. The Resourced Provision would open in phases and pupils are placed by the Hampshire County Council SEN Service. A separate consultation for the establishment of the Resourced Provision will be held.

What building works will be taking place?

Construction of a new three storey school and a separate two storey Sports Block and associated external and landscaping works.

When will the building works start?

Summer 2025, subject to planning consent.

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. Dedicated haul roads will be constructed during the enabling works, including segregated pedestrian walkways and crossings. All vehicles are proposed to come onto site from Whiteley Way which will eliminate any site traffic using Dapperling Road. To control vehicle movement on and off site all vehicle access will be prebooked using an electronic booking system combined with a fully trained traffic marshal to control vehicle movements. There will be a dedicated wheel washing facility on site to minimise the transfer of mud onto the surrounding roads. Solid 2.4m high hoarding will be installed along Whiteley Way and Dapperling road.

How is the new school building being funded?

The majority of the funding to build the school comes from Developer Contributions, collected to mitigate the education requirement on the development. Some funding secured from the Department for Education (Basic Need) is also being utilised to build the school to the 6fe size.

How are the new plans addressing future sustainability and climate change agendas?

The new school will have an increased insulation thickness and solar panels on the roof which will result in an improved learning environment and use less energy to heat the school.

There will also be electric charging points installed in the car park to encourage sustainable travel.

When will the planning application be submitted?

October 2024

How will the traffic to the new school be managed?

The County Council appreciates that local residents will be concerned about potential traffic implications due to the new school. By planning to create school places on an accessible site, as close as possible to where children live, we create the best chance for those children to travel to school in an active, sustainable way, using means of travel other than the car.

If the recent consultation regarding secondary school places in Fareham gives the result that The Henry Cort Community College relocates to this new school in North Whiteley, school bus services will be provided for those students living in Fareham to travel to this site, to minimise the impact of their travel. Any students not entitled to transport will be given information and support and be encouraged to travel to site in the most sustainable way.

Sustainable travel is supported through the production of a Framework School Travel Plan, to be submitted as part of the planning application. The Framework School Travel Plan will set out a range of tools and measures to enable staff, families, pupils and visitors to make informed decisions about how they travel to and from school. The Travel Planning Team at Hampshire County Council will work with the school before and after opening to put these measures in place and help minimise any impact on the environment and local community that the school run may cause.

Once the school is open and operating a travel plan steering/working group will be established to develop a Full School Travel Plan. This group will include members of staff, pupils, parents/guardians, governors and any other interested partners, and be supported by the Travel Planning Team.

The Full School Travel Plan is a long-term document to look at how children, parents, staff and visitors travel to and from school, and sets out measures to;

1. Encourage and enable pupils, parents/guardians, staff and visitors to walk/wheel, scoot and cycle to school. Where this is not possible, to consider public transport, car sharing or the use of any Park and Stride facilities which may be made available.
2. Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to active, sustainable travel and how this links to the environment, safety and health.
3. Improve safety.

The development and ongoing review of the school travel plan by the steering/working group will involve;

- Surveying pupils, parents and staff to find out how they travel, if they encounter any barriers preventing them from choosing active modes of travel and suggestions as to improvements.
- Consulting with the local community and other key partners to identify any issues relating to school travel that are felt by the wider community.

- Working with the various key stakeholders to develop an action plan which addresses these barriers and issues and seeks ways to increase sustainable, safe travel to school.

Hampshire County Council does not provide drop off/ pick up or parking facilities for parents on school sites to deter travel by car. The school site has been designed so that it can be accessed from three points to provide every opportunity for dispersing the volume of pedestrian traffic across all entrances.

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

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with Hampshire County Council officers and view the plans for the school and its site will take place on:

Date	Time	Location
10 September 2024	3:30pm – 6:30pm	Cornerstone Church of England Primary School

If you wish to make a comment on the new secondary school proposal, please write to Francesca Godden, Strategic Development Officer, Children’s Services Department, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by Monday 30 September 2024.

What happens after this consultation?

The purpose of this non statutory consultation is to seek the views of stakeholders in the community on the proposed new school. It is important to the County Council that the views of all stakeholders who may be affected by the proposals are carefully considered.

Any comments received will be considered prior to the planning application for the school due to be submitted in October 2024. Should you still have comments at that stage there will be a further statutory consultation period as part of the full planning submission.