

## **Consultation on the proposal to enlarge Church Crookham Junior School**

### **Pre Planning Consultation FAQ – 4 October 2017**

#### **Proposal to Enlarge Church Crookham Junior School**

Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views about the proposal to enlarge Church Crookham Junior School.

We are running a consultation from 4 October 2017 until 2 November 2017.

A drop-in session for you to be able to see the proposed plans and discuss with officers is being held on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at Church Crookham Junior School between 3pm and 6pm.

#### ***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. This equally applies to the Church Crookham area. This existing pressure combined with local developments 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 Church Crookham Junior School to meet this need.

The proposed enlargement will allow Church Crookham Junior School to offer 150 places in Year 3 (age 7+). The school offered 150 year 3 places for September 2017 admissions to meet local demand for places. This expansion will allow Church Crookham Junior School to cater for 600 pupils.

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

#### ***What building works will be taking place?***

The building works to enlarge Church Crookham Junior School is anticipated for completion in 2019.

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.

Plans are available on the website and will be presented at the drop-in session to be held on Wednesday 18 October 2017.

#### ***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 2018 and it is anticipated that completion will take place in 2019.

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 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 headteacher 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 school taking more pupils?***

Hampshire 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 will 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, scooter 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 key stages involved in developing a travel plan are;

- Surveying pupils, parents and staff as to how they travel, the barriers that they may encounter, and suggestions as to improvements.
- Consult with residents through the statutory drop-in sessions to identify issues, relating to the school run, that are felt by the wider community, along with possible solutions
- Work with the various 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 a combination of physical measures such as scooter storage or crossing points, and 'soft' measures relating to education, promotion and enforcement. For those who have no alternative but to use the car, other options will be considered such as 'Park and Stride' sites.

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

### ***Travel initiatives already underway with the schools***

The school is already being proactive in encouraging pupils and parents to walk, cycle and scoot through a range of initiatives and curriculum activities. This seeks to embed a positive culture around walking, cycling and scooting within the school. The school participates in the Living Streets Walk Once a Week (WoW) scheme and a number of activities that promote health, wellbeing and road safety, such as Walk to

School Week and Bikeability. The school also has Junior Road Safety Officers who promote road safety and active travel.

In addition, the school operates a before and after school club to allow working parents to manage their day.

***Will there be enough space on local roads for drop-off and pick-up by car?***

The school travel plan will encourage more pupils to travel by sustainable modes, however, it is understood that some parents will need to drive their children to school. To try to combat the number of cars in the school vicinity the school already has agreement for the use of two Park and Stride sites and these are promoted to the pupils and their parents. Car sharing will be encouraged and a transport study and discussions with the local district authority are underway to assess any potential impact on the highway that the expansion may have, and propose measures to address these, if required.

***How will congestion be managed in nearby 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.

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 a 12% reduction (or 20,000 fewer journeys every morning) in car use.

***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 **Wednesday 18 October 2017 from 3pm to 6pm at Church Crookham Junior 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, E11 Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk) by 2 November 2017.

***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 2 November 2017.**

***Who can I contact for more information?***

Please send enquiries to Mark Saunders, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk)