

Pre Planning Consultation FAQ – September 2016

Proposal to Enlarge Trosnant Infant School and Trosnant Junior School

Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views about the proposal to enlarge Trosnant Infant School and Trosnant Junior School

We are running a consultation from Monday 19 September 2016 until Friday 14 October 2016.

A drop-in session for you to be able to see the proposed plans and discuss with officers is being held on **Monday 26 September** in the **Scout Hut and Community Centre, Stockheath Lane, Havant, PO9 3BD** between **3pm and 6pm**.

Why do you need to enlarge the schools?

Throughout Hampshire the number of births has risen in recent years which has created a pressure on pupil places. This equally applies to the Havant area and has resulted in an increase in pupil numbers. In order to meet the County Council's statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of school places, these schools require expansion.

The proposed expansion would allow the capacity of both school sites to be increased to allow Trosnant Infant School from 180 to 270 places and Trosnant Junior School from 240 to 360 places with effect from September 2018.

What building works will be taking place?

The proposed building works will consist of new buildings containing teaching and ancillary accommodation to provide the additional facilities required for the school to admit the additional pupils together with internal adaptations.

Plans are available on the website and will be presented at the drop-in session to be held on Friday 16 September.

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 anticipated that the main building works will commence in 2017 and be completed by summer 2018 ready for the school to occupy. Based on the current project programme and assuming delays do not significantly impact progress there is no expectation that the project will require separate enabling works.

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 schools?

The schools 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 that 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 schools taking more pupils?

The County Council appreciates that local residents will be concerned about potential traffic implications due to the schools being expanded. By planning to create school places as close as possible to where children live, we create the best chance for those children to travel to school using means of travel other than the car. This is supported through the production of a School Travel Plan, to be submitted as part of the planning application.

Officers from Hampshire County Council will be at the consultation drop-in session to explain the process in developing a School Travel Plan, and to answer any questions you have.

A School Travel Plan is a long-term document produced by the whole school community and any other interested/affected parties. It looks at how children, parents, staff and visitors travel to and from school, and sets out measures to;

1. Encourage and enable pupils, parents, guardians and staff to walk, scoot and cycle to school. Where this is not possible, consider public transport, car sharing or 'Park and Stride' 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 and 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 school

Both schools are already being proactive in encouraging pupils and parents to walk, cycle and scoot through a range of initiatives and curriculum activities such as Bike IT. This seeks to embed a positive culture around cycling and scooting within the schools. They are also participating in a number of activities that promote health, wellbeing and road safety, such as Walk to School Week.

More recently the junior school has been working with the Police through a pupil-based initiative called 'Police Apprentice' to focus on developing and implementing positive parking messages amongst parents. This will be accompanied by a Parkwise leaflet to parents in the autumn term, and developing a walking map to advise parents how and where they can walk some or all of the route to school.

How will the traffic impacts of the expansion be managed?

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.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please send enquiries to Martin Shefferd, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk