



Hampshire
County Council

Pre-planning consultation on the proposal to build a new 420 place primary school on land at Welborne, Fareham

Hampshire County Council wish to consult with you ahead of the proposal to submit a planning application for a new primary school within the new housing development at Welborne, Fareham.

This consultation will run from **Monday 9 February to Monday 9 March 2026**.

Why do you need a new school?

The demand for additional places arises as a result of the significant housing development at Welborne, Fareham and will comprise of approximately 6,000 new homes over the next decade. It is planned for three primary schools and a secondary school to be built on the new development.

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.

Why is the school being built as a 420 place primary school?

The school is being built with the capacity of 420 places (60 places per age group) in order to accommodate the majority of the expected yield from the first phase of housing at the Welborne development.

What will be the impact on other local primary schools?

The new primary school is expected to open with a single Year R class in September 2028 and will grow incrementally each year. As it will fill from the lowest year group upwards, it will take seven years for the school to reach a full complement of year groups. A two class structure will open when the demand for places presents itself as the development builds out.

It is expected that as there will be enough pupils living within the new development for the new school, the impact on other local primary schools within the planning area will be minimal.

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

The school will have a Resourced Provision supporting pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan and who require additional specialist support.

The specific designation of the Resourced Provision has yet to be determined. The Resourced Provision would open in phases and pupils are placed into the provision by the Hampshire County Council Special Educational Needs Service.

What building works will be taking place?

Construction of a new two storey school and associated external and landscaping works. Proposed drawings have been published on the consultation website for you to view.

When will the building works start?

Building works are expected to start in Spring/Summer 2027, 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. Typically, this would be prepared and submitted to the local planning authority for approval as a pre-commencement planning condition. It will be publicly available to view once submitted and validated by the council, before construction works begin.

What about the impact on traffic due to the new school?

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.

This 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 measures to encourage 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 working group will be established to develop a Full School Travel Plan.

The Full School Travel Plan is a document that provides a long-term plan 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.
2. Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to active, sustainable travel and how this links to the environment, road safety and both physical and mental health.

Alongside the development of a Full School Travel Plan, the school will be invited and supported to attain Modeshift STARS accreditation – a nationally recognised

award for schools that demonstrate excellence in promoting active and sustainable travel.

Hampshire County Council does not provide drop off/ pick up or parking facilities for parents on school sites to deter travel by car. Applying the County Council's Local Transport Plan's principles, schools should be built to be traffic-free wherever possible and to encourage walking, wheeling and cycling. The school site has been designed to so that it is permeable from three points to provide every opportunity for dispersing the volume of pedestrian traffic across all entrances. Beyond the school parameter, there will also be a controlled road so that the school vicinity is as safe as possible and encourages active travel. For those essential car users, the local community centre will enable a 'Park and Stride' facility. Parking will not be provided for parents on-site.

How is the new school building being funded?

The new school is being funded through developer contributions, collected to mitigate the education requirement on the development and Basic Need Grant from the DfE. No HCC resources are required

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

The scheme supports local and national sustainability and climate-change objectives by adopting a low-embodied-carbon timber frame, delivering a highly airtight building fabric to minimise heat loss. The building will operate on an all-electric system, supported by roof-mounted photovoltaic panels. A ground-source heat pump will provide efficient, low-carbon heating, significantly reducing operational emissions and ensuring long-term environmental resilience.

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

What changes to the catchment areas are being proposed?

The building of a new school necessitates a review of catchment areas to ensure:

- that it remains reasonable;
- that extended communities are not fractured by a catchment boundary;
- the forecast size of the child population for the area can be accommodated within the school's capacity;
- that the new school has an established area that it might operate as a catchment area within their admission arrangements.

The County Council will be seeking to work with the relevant local schools in the area to ensure the admissions authority running the new school can determine a local catchment area to support this principle and contribute to the viability of the new school.

What transition arrangements will be in place?

These will be confirmed at the time any new catchment area is determined.

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

A drop-in event where you will be able to discuss the proposal with County Council Officers will take place on **Thursday 26 February 2026 at The Welborne Welcome Centre, 71 Dashwood Avenue, Fareham, PO17 4AA between 3:00pm and 6:00pm.**

If you wish to make a comment on the new primary school proposal, please write to Amanda Vaughan, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to:

strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk **by 9 March 2026.**

What happens after this consultation?

This consultation will run until **Monday 9 March 2026.**

Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses, prior to the submission of the planning application. You will have a further opportunity to comment on the school proposals should they proceed to the statutory planning stage.