

Children's Services
County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ
Tel: 01522 782030
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To Staff, Parents/Guardians and other interested parties

7th November 2011

Dear Consultee

Proposal to Expand Spalding Primary School

To ensure that there are enough primary school places to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in Spalding, Lincolnshire County Council are consulting on the proposal to expand Spalding Primary School, Woolram Wygate, Spalding PE11 1PB.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient places in schools to accommodate all pupils. This proposal seeks to address the expected shortage of primary Reception school places in Spalding as the best available option. It is important that the LA gather and consider all views on this proposal prior to making a decision regarding its implementation. The majority of the additional children that would attend the school are expected to come from within a 1 mile radius of the school as a result of increased birth rates in the local community and from new housing at Wygate Park, and so within a suitable walking/cycling distance. We are aware of concerns regarding existing and future traffic and parent parking issues, and will be considering a number of options to improve this should a planning application be submitted following consultation.

The additional information accompanying this letter outlines the reasons for this proposal and explains in more detail about why there is a need to expand this school and how it can benefit the children and the community.

Following statutory consultation, if agreed, it is proposed that building work to add additional accommodation will begin during Summer 2012 and will be completed by September 2013. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time, making the best use of school holidays.

If you wish to comment on this proposal then after reading the accompanying information please return the form using the contact details provided by 19th December 2011.

After reading the attached document, if you would like to discuss this further before responding to the proposal then LA officers will be holding pre-booked consultation drop in sessions at the school on Thursday 17th November. Please contact Mrs Andrea Dring, School Administrator on 01775 769445 to arrange an appointment

If you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact the Property and Technology Management team. Contact details are enclosed.

Yours sincerely

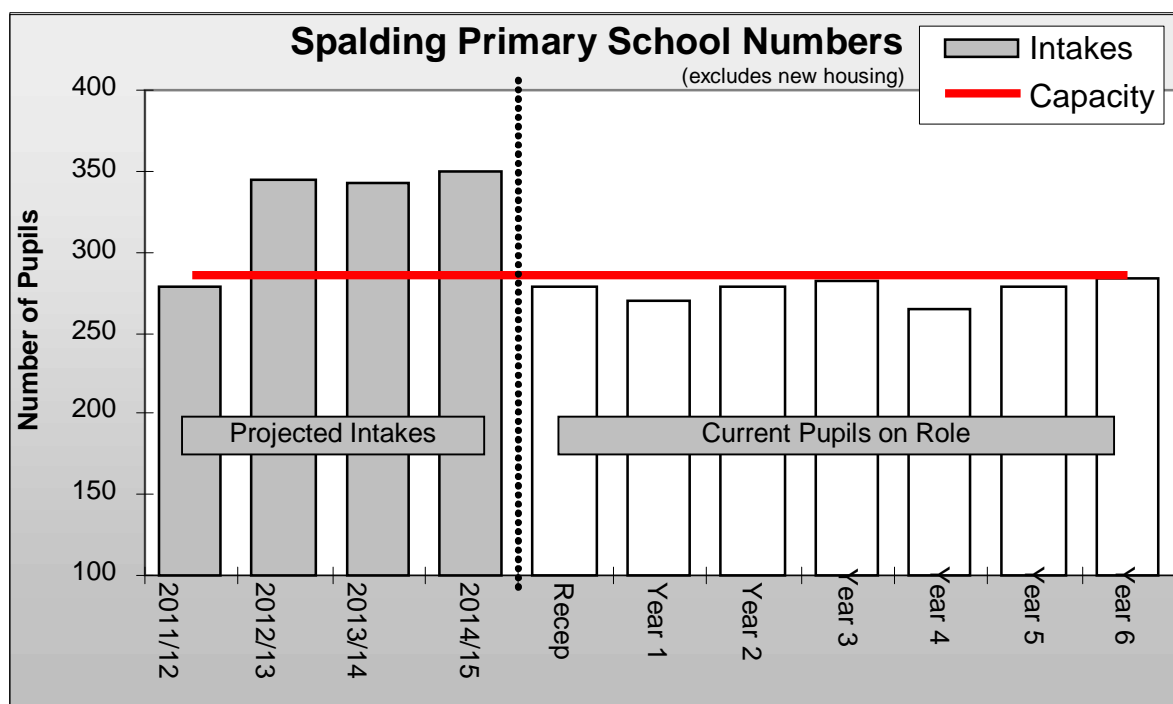


Matt Clayton
School Organisation Planning Manager
Property and Technology Management

Reasons for the Proposal to Expand Spalding Primary School

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in towns and cities (urban areas), have been steadily rising in recent years. These increased births, combined in some areas with migration and housing development, are now starting to reach primary school age putting significant pressure on schools across the country where there is a shortage of Reception places.

Spalding is one of the urban pressure points in Lincolnshire where there will be a shortage of available places if capacity in the town is not increased. The graph below shows the known pupil numbers across all Spalding primary schools of children aged 0-3 that will be needing primary places in the years ahead (shaded columns), compared to existing pupil numbers aged 4+ already in Spalding schools (non-shaded columns).



Based on information from the Office of National Statistics, combined with local NHS birth data, there is expected to be a long term requirement of at least 30 additional places per year group in the area. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children. The proposed solution is to expand Spalding Primary School from its existing capacity of 420 to 630. This will increase its intake (Published Admission Number – PAN) from 60 to 90 per year group. The aim is to have the new facilities ready for the September 2013 intake and for temporary accommodation to be in place to take 30 additional reception pupils from September 2012.

The proposal is to phase in the increased intake to 90 for each Reception intake over a number of years to maintain pupil numbers at other local schools and avoid unnecessary cross town commuting. It will also allow the school to effectively manage their staffing and teaching structures.

If you would like further information or would like to comment on this proposal then please write to provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk or Property & Technology Management, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Lincoln LN1 1YQ by 19th December 2011.

Copies of all associated consultation documents, including an electronic version of the feedback form, can be found online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning

Any planning queries will be dealt with through a separate planning consultation process should the proposals go as far as planning applications.

Consultation Feedback Form on the expansion of Spalding Primary School

Please note that if you do not provide your name and address your views will not be counted as legitimate responses to this consultation. Names and contact details will remain confidential.

Name: Email (optional):

Postal Address:

Parent Carer Teacher/School Staff Governor Employer/Business

Other (please specify) :

Which school (if any) do you represent?

Having read the proposal please indicate your view below by ticking one of the boxes

I am in favour of proposal I am against proposal I am neither for nor against the proposal

Why have you decided this is your view? Tell us about it below.

Is there anything else you want us to consider?

Please return the completed form by 19th December 2011 to: Property & Technology Management, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or email provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk or fax 01522 553257