

APPENDIX D



Children's Services
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To Staff, Parents/Carers and other interested parties

10 January 2013

Dear Consultee

Proposal to Expand Kirton Primary School

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) is commencing a consultation process on the proposal to permanently expand the capacity at Kirton Primary School, Station Road, Kirton, Boston PE20 1HY with an implementation date of September 2014.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA believes that this proposal is the best available option to address the expected shortage of Primary Reception school places in Kirton to ensure that local children are able to go to their local school. It is important that the LA gather and consider all views on this proposal prior to making a decision on how to proceed.

The school have admitted above the usual intake of 60 to provide up to 90 Reception places for September 2012 by making maximum use of all available accommodation and remodelling existing accommodation. If the demand for places is greater than the 60 places available for September 2013 then the LA may ask the school to over offer again up to 90 places for the Reception intake in September 2013. Additional accommodation would be provided to make this possible.

The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand the school from the existing capacity of 420 places based on a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 60 to 630 places (PAN 90), with a proposed implementation date of September 2014. This would increase the PAN initially for the Key Stage 1 year groups from 60 to 90 with the PAN for years 3 – 6 remaining at 60. The increased intake to 90 would then be phased in with each subsequent Reception intake commencing in September 2015 until the PAN of 90 applies to all year groups. This phased approach will allow the school to effectively manage staffing and teaching structures and help to ensure that pupil numbers at other local schools will be maintained.

The following information outlines the reasons for the proposal and explains why there is a need to expand this school and how the expansion can benefit the children and the community.

Reasons for the Proposal to Expand Kirton Primary School

National birth rates, mostly concentrated in more urban areas, have been steadily rising in recent years. This increased birth rate, combined in some areas with inward migration and housing development, is now starting to have an impact at primary school age putting significant pressure on primary schools across the country where there is a shortage of

Reception places. The Kirton community will experience a shortage of available places if capacity at the local school is not increased.

NHS birth data for the Kirton area shows that on average over the next 4 years the number of children that will be requiring a primary school place is up to 30 more each year than it has been in recent years. There is expected to be a long term requirement for more places. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate these extra children to avoid overcrowding and/or transporting 4 year old children to alternative schools outside of their local community.

Having additional classes and more children on roll at the school will also have financial benefits for the school. This may potentially provide the opportunity to enhance teaching provision and career opportunities for staff which in turn will benefit the learning experience of the children.

Following statutory consultation, if the expansion proposal is approved, it is proposed that building work to add necessary additional accommodation will begin during the academic year 2012/13 (subject to planning permission being granted) and planned to be completed in readiness for the start of term in September 2014. This would be managed to cause minimal disruption to the school during term time making the best use of school holidays where possible.

Please note that the planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately and there will be opportunity for those that are interested to be involved throughout the planning process.

Have your say

If you wish to comment on this proposal then please return the response form by 5.00pm on Thursday 7th February 2013 using the contact details provided. If you would like to discuss this further before responding to the proposal then LA officers will be holding pre-booked consultation sessions at the school on 22nd January between 8.30 am and 6.00 pm. Please contact Mrs Booker, School Business Manager, on 01205 722236 to arrange an appointment.

If you have any queries regarding the proposal or the consultation process please do not hesitate to contact the Property and Technology Management team (contact details are confirmed on the response form).

If you would like further information or would like to comment on this proposal then please return the attached form, email provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk or write to Property & Technology Management, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Lincoln LN1 1YQ by 5.00pm on 7th February 2013.

Copies of all documents related to this proposal, including an electronic version of the feedback form, can be found online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning under "Current Consultations". Hard copies are also available on request.

Yours sincerely



Matt Clayton
School Organisation Planning Manager
Property and Technology Management