

APPENDIX F



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

15 October 2012

Dear Consultee

Proposal to Expand and Relocate Crowland South View Community Primary School

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) is commencing a consultation process on the proposal to permanently expand the capacity at Crowland South View Community Primary School by relocating the school into refurbished accommodation of the former St Guthlac school (currently University Academy Holbeach) from September 2014. LCC and South View Primary School are committed to working with Crowland Parish Council and the residents of Crowland to continue to provide community facilities.

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 shortage of Primary School places in Crowland to ensure that local children are able to go to their local school in suitable accommodation. It is important that the LA gather and consider all views on this proposal prior to making a decision on how to proceed.

The proposal being consulted on is to permanently expand the capacity of the school to be able to take up to 60 children (currently 46) in all year groups by moving to more suitable accommodation on the site previously occupied by The St Guthlac School on Postland Road in Crowland. This will increase permanent capacity from 322 to 420. 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

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 putting significant pressure on primary schools across the country, such as South View. The former St Guthlac site and buildings offer an excellent opportunity to address the shortage of space at the current South View Primary School.

The school have admitted above their intake of 46 to provide 60 Reception places for September 2012 by making maximum use of all available accommodation as they have done in previous years. Population data shows that there is expected to be a long term requirement for more than 46 places per year group. A permanent sustainable solution is needed to accommodate additional children to avoid further overcrowding and/or transporting 4 year old children to alternative schools outside of their local community. The South View site already has 3 temporary classrooms, an undersized playground, a shortfall of general accommodation and a split site with a playing field with no facilities more than 250 metres away across a busy road. There are no development opportunities on the current school site and with pupil numbers expected to remain above 46 there will be a shortage of classroom space from September 2014. Any additional accommodation

added to the current site would further reduce the already limited outdoor play area. Moving to a larger site with better facilities will address many of these issues and provide accommodation that is fit for purpose with the potential to provide additional facilities such as extended provision.

The table below shows the number currently on roll for year groups Reception to Year 7, and also shows the potential intake numbers for September 2013 onwards based on NHS GP registration data. The published admissions number per year group is currently 46 and the permanent capacity is 322:

	2014	2013	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on Roll	52	57	61	47	42	58	56	44	37	345

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 work will be carried out to refurbish the former St Guthlac buildings during the academic year 2012/13 (subject to planning permission being granted) with the aim of having the new facilities completed in readiness for the start of term in September 2014.

Please note that the planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately and there will be an 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 19th November 2012 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 drop in sessions at the school on Thursday 25th October between 9.00am and 5.00pm. Please contact Collette Hunter on 01733 210361 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 19th November 2012.

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
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Property and Technology Management