



**Complete proposal  
to Relocate and Expand  
Crowland South View Community Primary  
School**

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 19 OF THE EDUCATION AND  
INSPECTIONS ACT 2006 PROPOSALS TO MAKE PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS  
TO A SCHOOL

**3 January 2013**

## **Contact details**

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the expansion of Crowland South View Community Primary School, Reform Street, Crowland, Peterborough, PE6 0AN.

## **Implementation**

The proposal is to relocate and expand Crowland South View Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2014. The proposal is being made to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Crowland to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the community and to enable the Local Authority (LA) to fulfil its statutory duty of providing school places for all children of statutory school age in Lincolnshire.

## **Objections and Comments**

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing [provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk) to be received by the deadline of 31 January 2013

## **Alteration description**

The proposal under consideration is to relocate and expand Crowland South View Community Primary School from its existing capacity of 322 to 420 (based on the Published Admission Number) with an increase in the PAN from 46 to 60.

## **School Capacity and Site**

As a temporary measure reorganisation has taken place within limited existing accommodation which has enabled the school to provide places above the PAN of 46 in several year groups including 60 Reception places for September 2012. The expansion being consulted on will enable the school to take up to 60 children 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. 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 2012/2013 (subject to any necessary planning permission being granted) with the aim of having the new facilities completed ready for the start of term in September 2014.

If a planning application process is required this would be dealt with and consulted on separately.

The number on roll at the time of publication of the Statutory Notice was 343. The table below shows the number currently on roll for year groups Reception to Year 6, and also shows the potential intake numbers for September 2013 and 2014 based on NHS GP registration data. The published admissions number per year group is currently 46 with a permanent capacity of 322:

	2014	2013	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on Roll	52	57	61	47	42	58	56	44	36	344

Data from October 2012 Census

## Objectives

The proposal detailed in this document is to relocate and expand Crowland South View Community Primary School with effect from 1 September 2014 and the objective is both to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in Crowland to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers in the area and also to enable the LA to fulfil its statutory duty of providing school places for all children of statutory school age in Lincolnshire within a reasonable distance from where they live.

The LA considers this to be the best available solution to the expected shortage of primary school places in Crowland and would not be actively participating in this process if it did not see significant advantages for children and young people, their parents/carers and the local community. Other options in Crowland and the surrounding area have been explored and all primary schools have been considered for potential expansion but none have been found to be as suitable due to reasons such as undersized sites, distance that pupils would have to travel, parental preference, potential impact on standards and the fact that other schools are already of suitable size for their local communities. This proposal is in response to demographic pressures and it is not anticipated that there will be a negative impact on the demand for places at any of the neighbouring schools.

The LA believes this proposal to be in the best interests of local children and local parents as well as educational provision in the area and it reinforces the priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The proposal will ensure that the provision of school places is planned so as to promote high educational standards, enable fair access to educational opportunity for every child and promote the fulfilment of each child's potential. This proposal will both enhance the quality of provision and sustain local provision.

The LA believes that this relocation and expansion can also benefit the community. The LA and South View Primary School are committed to working with Crowland Parish Council and the residents of Crowland to continue to provide community facilities.

The publication of the Statutory Notice will enable the statutory and legal processes to proceed. This continuation to the next stage of the process will allow a further opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the Executive Councillor.

## Consultation

In order for the school to expand the LA must follow the necessary statutory legal processes as required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 and updated by the Education Act 2011 together

with the guidance of the Department for Education (DfE) regarding expansion. Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal.

Consultation originally began on 15 October 2012 with a letter, incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal, being sent to all parents of pupils attending the school informing them of the proposal. Interested parties were also informed as required by guidelines issued by the DfE. In addition, on 25 October 2012, individual drop in sessions were offered to parents to discuss the proposal further with an LA officer. These meetings were offered to allow those having an interest in this proposal to be able to gather information, ask questions and get involved in the debate. One appointment was taken up by a parent who supported the proposal but raised concerns regarding the busy road of the relocated site and the suitability of stairs in a primary school. The LA officer was able to reassure the parent that should the proposal go ahead all traffic issues would be considered in any planning application process and any upstairs classrooms would only be used for Key Stage 2 pupils and not any younger children.

All parents/carers and other interested parties were given the opportunity to respond as part of the consultation process by 19 November 2012. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage Current Consultations on [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning)

An analysis of the written responses to the consultation is detailed in Appendix B1 but to briefly summarise there were 29 valid responses in total with 20 supporting the proposal, 3 against and 6 expressing a view neither in favour nor against the proposal. Of the total responses received 17 were from parents of current pupils with none against, 14 in favour and 3 neither for nor against.

The Headteacher has consulted with the children currently attending the school through the school council. This has produced a very positive response and the children are generally looking forward to the relocation and expansion of their school. (summary attached in Appendix B2)

#### **Evidence of the consultation before the proposal was published -**

- (a) a list of persons and/or parties who were consulted can be found in Appendix A
- (b) the views of the persons consulted are summarised in Appendix B1 together with a summary of the consultation undertaken by the school council in Appendix B2
- (c) a copy of the letter confirming the commencement of the consultation process and incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal is in Appendix C
- (e) a copy of the form to send in responses is in Appendix D.

Following the initial letter all documentation relating to the consultation was published online through the County Council website under Current Consultations at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/provisionplanning)

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposal were complied with.

### **Project Costs**

This proposed relocation and expansion will incur capital costs and the LA will fund the necessary refurbishment costs from the Children's Services capital programme with ongoing revenue costs funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.

### **Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision**

The relocation of the school is not likely to have any impact on SEN provision other than an opportunity to improve the provision with better access to resources and consistently good quality teaching, learning and leadership at the relocated school. Consideration of pupils with SEN will take place and the LA will continue to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN.

### **Need for places**

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 impacting on demand for primary school places 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 internal and external space at the current South View Primary School.

NHS birth data for the Crowland area 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 these extra children to avoid further overcrowding and/or transporting 4 year old children to alternative schools outside of their local community. This proposal is being put forward as a solution to the increasing demand for places for local children in Crowland. It is not anticipated that this will have any adverse impact on the demand for places at any of the neighbouring primary schools which will continue to offer places for the children within their own localities. The LA has a vital role in ensuring the viability and sustainability of all schools within Lincolnshire and not to create any excess surplus capacity which would be detrimental to an existing school or Academy.

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 and community use arrangements.

### **Expansion of successful and popular schools**

The Government is committed to ensuring that every parent can choose an excellent school for their child with the wishes of parents being taken into account. There is a strong presumption that proposals to expand popular and successful schools should be approved. DfE guidance states that places should be allocated where parents want them and that successful and popular schools be allowed to grow. This proposal will assist in meeting parental preference.

The most recent Ofsted report following an inspection at the school was published in September 2009 and at this time parents were also asked to complete a questionnaire. The overwhelming majority of the parents who completed a questionnaire or spoke with inspectors during the inspection were very positive about the school, its leadership and management and were happy with their child's progress and experience at the school.

The school is consistently oversubscribed as indicated by the numbers of first preference applications received (46 in 2010, 50 in 2011 and 59 in 2012) for the 46 available places in the Reception class. The school is evidently popular with parents.

### **Related Proposals**

The proposal to relocate and expand Crowland South View Community Primary School is not related to any other statutory proposal.

### **What will happen now?**

Any person may object to or make comments on this proposal by sending them to Provision Planning, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN1 1YQ or by emailing [provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:provisionplanning@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

At the close of the 4 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 31 January 2013 responses will be collated and analysed and a final report will be presented to the Executive Councillor in March 2013 for a decision on the expansion of the school. The representation period is the final opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the decision maker.