



CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Objectives of the proposal in this consultation document

- ➔ To meet local demographic need for school places at Kempsey Primary School
- ➔ To expand (both in terms of pupils as well as in terms of space) an already highly regarded, Ofsted rated "good" school
- ➔ To access local authority/Section 106 money to build additional learning space and thereby enable the school to "spread out" and create more space for its current pupils
- ➔ By building additional learning spaces, to increase space and flexibility of use for all our pupils, current and in the future

Purpose of this consultation document

The purpose of this document is to provide information relating to the proposal by the Governing Body of Kempsey Primary School to expand its PAN (Pupil Admission Number, or the number of pupils admitted to the school in each year group) from its current 40 to 45 children on a permanent basis from September 2018. This would eventually increase the Academy's global number (or total number of pupils in the school) to 315 pupils.

Background

In the past 18 months, there has been considerable housing development in Kempsey. 450 houses have already been built within the village's environs and a further 100+ houses are in the process of being constructed. As rapidly as the houses are built, they are filled, many with families with primary school aged children.

This has resulted in an increased demand for places at Kempsey Primary School, the village school. In the past four years, there has been a sharp increase in the number of pupils enrolled in the school:

- October 2013: 245 pupils
- October 2014: 255 pupils
- October 2015: 266 pupils
- October 2016: 272 pupils
- October 2017 (current): 299 pupils

The Governing Body of Kempsey Primary school has agreed to a request from Worcestershire County Council to temporarily admit pupils over its planned admission number in September 2017 to meet a local demographic need but, given the ongoing demand for places at the school, wish to make this a permanent increase.

WCC have agreed that, upon completion of this consultation, and with agreement to increase the school's PAN to 45 per year group, they will release funding which will be used to build three additional learning spaces (see attached plan). These learning spaces will give the school much needed spaces for deployment of classes (several of the classrooms in Key Stage 2 particularly are too small and cramped), a possible meeting room, space for interventions and the creation of a sensory room.



PLEASE NOTE: It is important to note that this PAN increase will not mean an influx of many more pupils. There are currently 299 pupils on roll in the school; with a PAN of 45 per year group, even if each year group were to reach that number, the total number of pupils would be 315 (**an additional 16 pupils**).

Kempsey Primary School is a member of the Hanley and Upton Educational Trust and has the support of the Trust’s Accounting Officer, Lindsey Cooke, and its Chief Finance Officer, Elaine Wilkins, in making this proposal.

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of this consultation, if the Governing Body decides that they wish to proceed with the permanent increase in PAN, they will be required to submit an application for approval to the Education Funding Agency (EFA). The size of the proposed expansion meets the criteria for a “fast track” application, for which the EFA requires confirmation that a fair and open consultation has taken place, that funding has been secured, that the change is aligned with local pupil place plans, and that planning consent have been secured for any proposed building work.

School Capacity

Kempsey Primary School currently has 299 pupils on roll. This is a result of some year groups having had a temporary PAN increase to accommodate additional pupils. Formalising the PAN at 45 per year group would increase the overall school number to 315 pupils.

Kempsey Primary School is in urgent need of additional physical capacity (ie learning spaces) to accommodate those pupils currently on roll as well as any additional pupils. Formalising the PAN at 45 would release money from the Local Authority which would be used to build three new learning spaces. Following this consultation, planning permission will be sought for these areas with a view towards completing them by September 2018. These additional spaces would relieve the current cramped conditions for some classrooms, particularly in Key Stage 2.

Timeline

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Consultation Document and building plans discussed at Full Governing Body Meeting	15 th November 2017
Consultation starts	20 th November 2017
Drop in meeting for staff, parents, carers and other interested parties	Tuesday, 12 th December, 2017 between 3 and 6 pm
End of consultation period	15 th December 2017
Governing Body to submit “fast track” application to DfE for approval to expand	18 th December 2017
Submit planning permission	Mid December 2017
Start building work on new classrooms	1 st April 2018

We would very much welcome any feedback on this consultation. Please get in touch with one of the people listed below or email/write to the school office on office@kempseyyps.org.uk. **Please send responses in by 8th December 2017.**



Also attached to this proposal is a list of “Frequently Asked Questions” that may help to address some immediate concerns/queries that may arise.

Please feel free to contact the following people for more information:

- Mrs Bryony Baynes, Head Teacher on bbaynes@kempseyps.org.uk
- Mr Steven Price, Chair of Governors via the School Office, Kempsey Primary School
- Mrs Lindsey Cooke, HUET Chief Accounting Officer on cookl@hanleycastlehs.org.uk
- Mrs Elaine Wilkins, HUET Chief Finance Officer on ewilkins@hanleycastlehs.org.uk

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why do you need to increase the PAN in the school? Why can't you remain as you are?

A: The Governors of Kempsey Primary School are realistic in the challenges facing the school – facing all schools in England. Kempsey village itself is an area that is rapidly expanding with increasing numbers of houses being built, many of which are inhabited by families with young children. These families want their children to attend the local school. Additionally, KPS has a strong and good reputation in the surrounding area and, increasingly, parents want a place at the school for their child. In today's educational world, pupils equal funding and, if we turn these children away, we not only disappoint local families but we run the risk of losing much needed funding.

Q: My child currently attends Kempsey Primary School. How can I be assured that standards and provision will be maintained and even improved if the school is expanded?

A: The Governors, Head Teacher and staff of KPS are fully committed to maintaining and building upon the excellent standards at the school. They are equally committed to continuing to provide a rich and engaging curriculum that is well designed and which is matched to the needs, abilities, interests and aspirations of all the children in the school. We are confident in our ability to continue to provide this for an extended number of children.

Q: Would KPS be able to continue to provide a full and varied curriculum with additional pupils?

A: The curriculum taught throughout the school is well designed and carefully matched to the needs, abilities, interests and aspirations of all the children. This would not change with the addition of more pupils. Staff regularly review this curriculum and would continue to plan the curriculum to meet the needs of the additional children. The school already has an extremely well developed extra-curricular programme and extended school activities which would be able to be accessed by any new children joining the school. Further, the building of additional classrooms would provide greater scope for enhanced facilities for curricular and extra-curricular opportunities.

Q: What are you proposing to build and how would these facilities improve the school?

A: Proposals are to build a further three learning spaces in the back playground (outside Oak/Maple classes). This would allow the current school population to spread out; current classrooms in Key Stage 2 are quite small and cramped for the number of pupils. These additional rooms would provide space for interventions and meetings. There would also be the opportunity to develop a Sensory Room for pupils needing “time out”. All building work will be to the recognised standards for our size and type of school.



Q: Have you considered the possible impact of an increase in PAN on traffic flow, transport and car parking?

A: The school's Travel Plan will be reviewed and updated. However, it is the Governors' view that, as many of these proposed new pupils are already attending the school as part of temporary PAN increases in many of the school's year groups, we do not anticipate a great increase in traffic outside the school. We are also submitting a funding application to install a turning circle at the front of school to help with traffic flow.

Q: When would the new classrooms open?

A: Subject to obtaining all the necessary consents, it is likely that the new learning spaces would be operational from September 2018.

Q: Where would the funding come from to build these additional classrooms?

A: A large percentage of the costs for building these learning spaces would come from Section 106 money held by the local authority on behalf of the developers of new building in the village. Any additional money above that provided by WCC would come from the school's capital reserves.

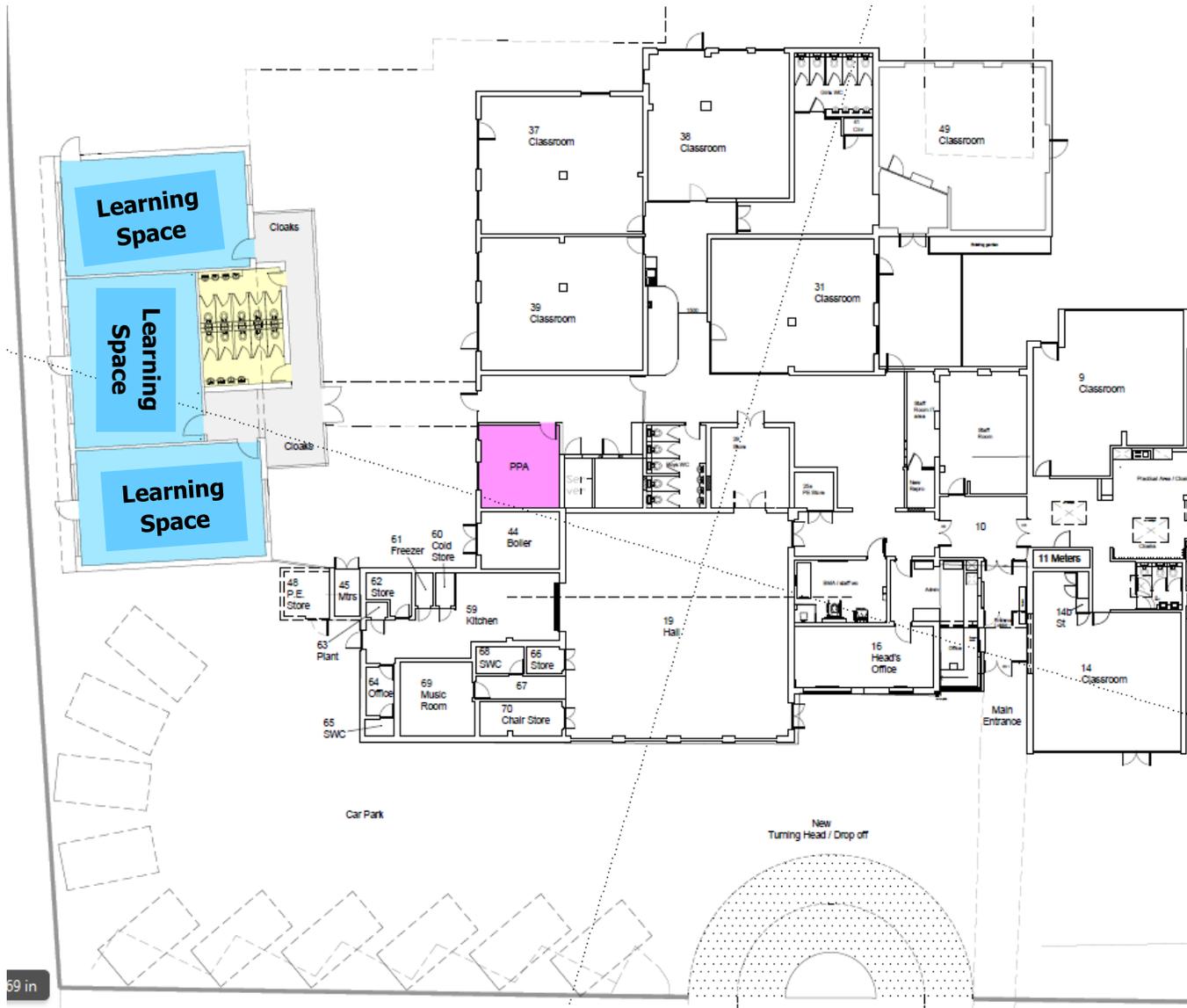
Q: Would this expansion impact upon the existing staff at the school?

A: An additional class was added to the school this year to manage additional pupils in EYFS. The Governors are committed to potentially recruiting additional teaching and support staff as needed to enable the school to operate effectively and to ensure the current very good staff/pupil ratio continues and to continue the warm, respectful relationships which exist between staff and pupils at the moment.

Q: Have any alternative solutions been considered, other than the expansion of Kempsey Primary School?

A: The Council has considered other options and will continue to do so as the area around Kempsey Village is developed. Among these considerations is the building of a completely new school; but this, if it happens, is some years in the future. This proposal is to handle the current demand for places. By asking KPS to increase its PAN to 45 pupils per year group, the Council is following its Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning, which underpin all council decisions regarding new school places. These policy principles include:

- ➔ The need to provide local schools for local children, ensuring a sense of community belonging and also promoting sustainable modes of travel
- ➔ The need to create schools that are of sufficient size to be financially and educationally viable
- ➔ The ability to support the expansion of local popular and successful schools or to link expanding schools with popular and successful schools
- ➔ The potential to further promote and support robust partnerships and learning communities.



Proposed Plans for new learning spaces:

- ➔ To be built on the small playground area outside Oak and Maple Classroom
- ➔ Additional Toilets and Cloakrooms built into plan
- ➔ These areas could be deployed in a number of ways – classrooms for our upper Key Stage 2 pupils, a meeting room space, space for interventions, etc.
- ➔ The HT and Governors are also submitting two bids to the Academy's Conditions' Improvement Fund, in hopes of obtaining funding to put in a turning circle at the front of school to help ease traffic congestion.