

## Proposal to Enlarge Whitchurch Primary School, Whitchurch

### **Name, address and category of school proposed for expansion**

Whitchurch Primary School, Bristol Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 0PQ  
Category: Community

### **Name and contact details of Local Authority publishing the proposals**

Bath and North East Somerset Council, People and Communities Department, Schools Capital and Organisation Team, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG.  
Email address: [schools\\_organisation@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:schools_organisation@bathnes.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01225 477000

### **Description of the proposal**

Bath and North East Somerset Council is proposing to enlarge the premises of Whitchurch Primary School to create a larger primary school. Before this change can be made the Council is required to publish a statutory notice detailing this proposal. It is proposed that the school would be expanded by 105 places. The school currently has a Planned Admission Number (PAN) of 30 and a capacity of 206 for children in Reception to Year 6. The enlarged school would have a PAN of 45 and offer a total of 315 places.

As part of this enlargement, an additional area of land adjacent to the existing school would be added to the school site. The enlargement building works required would be subject to a separate public consultation as part of the planning application process.

### **Evidence of demand**

Whitchurch Primary School has an OFSTED rating of Requires Improvement. The Local Authority is working closely with the school to raise standards and most recent feedback from inspectors indicates leadership is now effective, with improvements in a number of key areas across the school. The school is popular with parents and has 202 pupils on roll as at the October 2017 School Census. Pupil projections indicate that additional Reception places will be required in Whitchurch for admissions in 2019 onwards due to population growth from new housing development under construction and planned for the future.

### **Objectives of the proposal**

The Local Authority is under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available in their area to meet demand. Where possible these places should be provided in popular and successful schools serving the area of need in order to increase parental choice, contribute to raising educational standards and attainment and support sustainable methods of

travel to school such as walking or cycling. Due to population growth from new housing development in Whitchurch, there is a projected future shortfall of primary school places in the area. Creating an additional 105 places at Whitchurch Primary School will help to ensure sufficient school places are available locally to meet the needs of the community.

### **Effect on other schools in the area**

There is not expected to be any impact on other schools in the area as a result of the expansion of Whitchurch Primary School. The places created by increasing the PAN from 30 to 45 are projected to be required in addition to the school places currently available in the area, in order to provide sufficient places to accommodate projected increased pupil numbers in the future due to new housing development in Whitchurch. Whitchurch Primary is the only primary school serving Whitchurch in Bath and North East Somerset.

### **Project costs, how they will be met and how long term value for money will be achieved**

Capital costs for the enlargement building works are estimated to be approximately £1.3m, to be met from the Education Capital Grant and from S106 Developer Contributions. The accommodation will be provided in permanent buildings.

### **Implementation**

The date of the proposed enlargement of Whitchurch Primary School is 1 September 2019.

### **Procedure for responses**

Anyone can object to or support or comment on the proposal. If you would like to respond to this proposal, you can do so by sending an email or a letter to Bath and North East Somerset Council as detailed below.

In order to ensure that every response counts, please could you ensure that you give **your full name, your postcode, state the school's name and your relationship to the school** e.g. parent/carer, member of staff, etc. All responses must be submitted in writing.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 your personal details will not be used for any other purpose, will not be made public or shared with any other organisation.

Email address: [schools\\_organisation@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:schools_organisation@bathnes.gov.uk)

Postal address: Bath and North East Somerset Council, People and Communities Department, Schools Capital and Organisation Team, Lewis House, Manvers Street, BA1 1JG.

### **Date notice period ends**

The notice period ends on 15 March 2017. The deadline for responses to be received by Bath and North East Somerset Council is **midnight on Wednesday 15 March 2017**. We regret that we will be unable to enter into any correspondence regarding responses submitted.