



Broadway East First School Consultation on Relocation and Expansion

Introduction

For a number of years the Gosforth Schools' Trust has been working closely with all of its schools and Newcastle City Council to meet the growing demand for places in this part of the city. The Trust is committed to building on the success of its current schools and the whole Gosforth Pyramid in order to meet the growing need for places. As a result of pressure for places, 75 extra Reception places were created across three first schools ready for September 2015. This meant that Grange First School increased its intake from 30 to 60, Brunton First School increased its intake from 60 to 90 and South Gosforth First School increased its intake from 45 to 60. These changes met the short term need for places as well as giving the schools a stronger financial viability for the future. However, the on-going development at Newcastle Great Park and other local housing developments mean that there is further need for a long term solution for school places. A site for a new first school has been identified on Newcastle Great Park, 1.8 miles from our current location. Following extensive work between Gosforth Schools and Newcastle City Council, it was agreed that the preferred option for the first school at Newcastle Great Park would be to relocate an existing first school. This was confirmed by Newcastle City Council in its Cabinet Meeting on 21st November 2016.

What is the Proposal?

The Governing Body of Broadway East First School is proposing the relocation of Broadway East First School to the identified site on Newcastle Great Park and the expansion of the school from an intake of 45 to 90 pupils. The Governing Body has discussed this relocation and expansion in detail and we decided unanimously, at a meeting of the full Governing Body on 17th October 2016, that we should investigate the opportunity further and consult on the proposal when we were confident that it was feasible. We agreed to consult because we believe that it is a rare and exciting opportunity to improve our provision for our pupils and families, as well as giving the school a much stronger financial viability for the future. We are already facing some difficult financial decisions regarding curriculum provision, resources and services and we know that we cannot maintain our current level of provision with the funding available to us. We are proposing that we take this opportunity to relocate, with our staff and governors at the time of relocation, and to build on our school's success in providing a first class education with an even better curriculum and a strong future position.

The new school building will be on a shared site with Gosforth Federated Academy's proposed free school which would provide places for pupils in Year 5 to Year 11. The relocation of Broadway East First School would also provide the opportunity for other Gosforth First and Primary Schools to expand and increase their future sustainability. Our current close proximity to another Gosforth First School and Primary School is unusual and provides an opportunity for one of the schools to relocate while not leaving a gap in provision for families in Gosforth. We already serve a broad community across Gosforth and we currently have many children on roll who live in the North part of Gosforth, including Newcastle Great Park. It is intended that both new schools on Newcastle Great Park will be built and open by September 2020. The school would continue to be a

Foundation Trust School as part of the Gosforth Schools' Trust and we would continue to work with our partner schools in Gosforth.

The identified site is 1.8 miles from our current site and is situated northwest of the Sage Buildings. It will be a brand new school designed for the 21st century curriculum. Because the proposed relocation is within 2 miles of our current site, this is a non-statutory process to relocate under the School Organisation regulations and guidance. However, due to the importance of this change, the Governing Body wishes to seek the views of all stakeholders before making a final decision. The expansion of the school is a statutory process so a statutory notice covering the proposed expansion will be required if the governing body decides to go ahead following this stakeholder consultation.

The Governors believe that **expansion** would give better opportunities for our pupils and the school community through:

- the opportunity to have single curriculum year group classes (unlike the split classes we currently have in KS1 and KS2) and therefore more targeted curriculum provision for pupils
- more opportunities for improving teaching and learning through collaboration and sharing of good practice by teachers and teaching assistants as a result of a larger staff team
- more opportunity to develop non-core curriculum subjects as a result of a larger staff team with more expertise across the curriculum
- a larger budget which means that we could use our resources more efficiently and secure a more viable financial position for the future of the school

The Governors believe that **relocation** would give better opportunities for our pupils and the school community through:

- the benefit of a modern newly built school designed to deliver a 21st century curriculum
- much better opportunities for sport, computing and outdoor learning as well as maintaining and building on our excellent outcomes in other areas of the curriculum
- a new exciting forest school curriculum through access to 600 acres of open space including wetlands, woodlands and a range of ecological habitats
- much improved facilities for Early Years, including a purposefully designed outdoor area
- its own wrap around care on site managed by our own staff and providing excellent continuity of care for pupils
- better dining facilities for pupils
- the benefits of a modern building with potential savings on maintenance and running costs, therefore allowing more financial resources to be used to develop the curriculum and provision for pupils
- a site which is fully connected to 25km of dedicated pedestrian and cycle routes which will link to the Great Park Town Centre, the wider Great Park and Gosforth communities
- properly designed parking facilities for visitors and staff
- the opportunity to expand (see above)

This proposal to relocate is fully supported by Newcastle City Council.

We acknowledge that the relocation may present some logistic and practical difficulties for some of our families. These have been considered and discussed by Governors and, with the support of the City Council, we will be committed to ensuring that the transition to the new school is as manageable as possible while minimising the disruption for our school community.

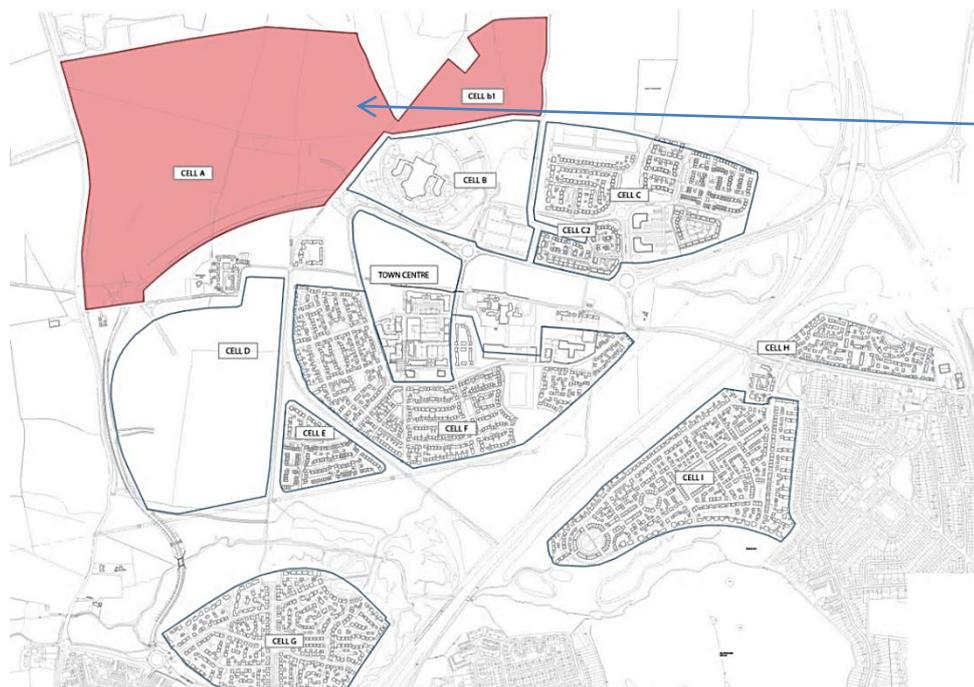
Additional Information about Newcastle Great Park

Newcastle Great Park is a mixed use development covering a site of 1200 acres. To date just over 2000 new family homes have been delivered and there has also been commercial development at Esh Plaza and the headquarters of SAGE plc. As a result there are approximately 2500 staff also employed on site. A new town centre is under construction and the development has already delivered Brunton First School, the Community Centre and Brunton Nursery. The site is served by the Q3 bus service that runs from the Park via the Great North Road to the Regent Centre then to the City Centre and beyond to Wallsend. The Park as the name suggests is exactly that and on completion there will be 600 acres of open space ranging from managed parkland, woodlands, wetlands nature conservation habitats and play areas. All the various development Cells are linked by a network of dedicated pedestrian and cycle routes and on completion there will be over 25km of routes that link not just internally within the park but also to the wider City. Brunton Bridge is a bus and pedestrian only access over the A1 and is very well used by residents, employees on the Park or those visiting on foot, cycling or scooting to school. Further non-vehicular and dedicated pedestrian and cycle links under the A1 are also committed to be delivered.

A new planning application is now being considered by Newcastle City Council for 1200 residential units, two new schools and playing fields. Information is available at the following link

<https://publicaccessapplications.newcastle.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=OPOK2PBS0EQ00>

The school site is located directly west of the existing SAGE building and the proposed masterplan shows how the site sits adjacent to a range of open space and links to open space, resources and facilities from which any educational provision would benefit. Dedicated footpath and cycle links are proposed from existing and proposed developments with parking and overflow parking at the existing Park and Ride would be available. The development of a school on this site will be subject to the determination of the planning application.



The NGP Masterplan

Proposed site for education on Cell A



**Proposed
Masterplan for Cell
A and B1**

Dates of consultation: Monday 12th June – Friday 7th July 2017

Governors will meet again following the consultation to make a final decision.

Date	
12th June 2017	Four week consultation begins
15th June	Parents’/carers’ consultation meeting at BEFS 6pm
22nd June	Consultation meeting at Great Park Community Centre (drop in) 4pm-7pm
7th July 2017	End of consultation period
Week beginning 17th July	Full Governing Body meeting to make final decision
The Governing Body will arrange additional meetings if there is judged to be further need during the consultation period.	

This document will be available via the school website www.broadway.newcastle.sch.uk and we will be consulting with:

- all current parents and carers
- parents and carers of children starting school in September 2017
- all staff, including Newcastle City Council staff based at Broadway East (kitchen staff, cleaning staff and caretaking staff)
- partner schools in the GST
- schools in Newcastle and surrounding area

- GST Directors
- locally elected members and MPs
- trade unions
- Newcastle Great Park Consortium
- Newcastle Great Park community
- other stakeholders