



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

29 April 2024

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School – Enlargement of Premises
Children's Services

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 Duffield and Belper South

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is not a key decision.

3. Purpose

3.1 To report the outcome of the statutory consultation carried out on the enlargement of premises and seek approval to enlarge the premises at The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School

3. Information and Analysis

Following the approval of a planning application for a housing development of 400 dwellings at Kedleston Road, Quarndon, the Local Authority secured Section 106 funding for the potential expansion of The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School. The purpose of this funding is to provide increased pupil places which would accommodate the additional children from the housing development.

The permanent expansion of premises at The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary requires the Local Authority to follow the statutory process set out in the DfE's Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools, dated January

2023 The Local Authority is required to publish a statutory proposal which contains sufficient information for consideration of the proposed change. The consultation period must last for 4 weeks from the date of the publication

5. Consultation

- 5.1 A statutory consultation took place from 12th February to 15th March 2024. There were no responses to the proposal. A copy of the consultation can be found in Appendix 2.

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 Not to proceed – The school would remain with their existing premises.

7. Implications

- 7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

- 8.1 These are held on file in the Children's Services Development Section

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1- Implications.
9.2 Appendix 2- Statutory Consultation

10. Recommendation(s)

That Cabinet approves the enlargement of premises at The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 To increase the capacity of the school from 119 to 175 in response to the Kedleston Road housing development.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

- 12.1 No

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Implications

Financial

1.1 None identified.

Legal

2.1 This proposal is subject to the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. Where the proposed enlargement is permanent (longer than 3 years) and would increase the capacity of the school by more than 30 pupils and 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser) the Local Authority is required to follow the statutory process set out in the regulations. The Local Authority is required to publish a statutory proposal which contains sufficient information for interested parties to make a decision on whether to support or challenge the proposed change. Following the close of the consultation the decision on whether to extend the age range must be made within a period of 2 months or the proposals must be referred to the Schools Adjudicator.

2.2 The DfE's Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools, dated January 2023 sets out that decision makers will need to be satisfied that the appropriate fair and open representation period has been carried out. Decision makers should also consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and whether the proposal will meet or affect the needs of parents, raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.

Human Resources

3.1 None identified.

Information Technology

4.1 None

Equalities Impact

5.1 The local authority is required to have 'due regard' to the duties set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Public Sector Equality Duty, 'PSED') in determining these proposals.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

6.1 Not applicable

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

- 7.1 Derbyshire County Council has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient primary and secondary school places and is committed to working in close partnership with schools, academy trusts, the dioceses and key partners to ensure that the supply of school places across Derbyshire is in the right location, is of sufficient size, is viable and of good quality. We know that schools can face challenges in meeting pupils' needs, particularly where pupil numbers are falling, and that in some cases, changes to the pattern of school organisation in an area can help secure the viability of schools, improve opportunities and raise standards.



**The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School
Consultation on the Enlargement of Premises to Provide Increased School Places for
Statutory School Aged Children**

Context

Following the approval of a planning application for a housing development of 400 dwellings at Kedleston Road, Quarndon, the Local Authority secured Section 106 funding to expand The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School. The purpose of this funding is to provide increased pupil places which would accommodate the additional children from the housing development.

The permanent expansion of premises at The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary requires the Local Authority to follow the statutory process set out in the DfE's School Organisation Regulations (Making significant changes 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools). The Local Authority is required to publish a statutory proposal which contains sufficient information for consideration of the proposed change. The consultation period must last for 4 weeks from the date of the publication.

Proposal

The proposal is to approve an expansion project at The Curzon CE (Aided) Primary School. The scheme would provide two additional modular classrooms (including toilets) and internal remodelling to provide a hall extension.

The school feel that the project would provide substantial improvements to the school, involving developing the site to provide improved facilities. Children would have the opportunity to be taught in buildings that are both welcoming and sustainable, creating a 21st century learning environment for them to thrive and prepare for their futures.

This investment into the primary school would support them in driving forwards their ambition for a better future for pupils and the community.

The expansion would increase the school's net capacity from 119 to 175.

Funding

The school has received a budget cost to provide the additional accommodation and S106 funding is available to cover the cost of the project.

Consultation

The consultation on this proposal will be for four weeks from Monday 12 February 2024 until Friday 15 March 2024.

The consultation document is available on the Derbyshire County Council website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have-your-say or by request from Jenny Webster on Tel: 01629 535808 or by e-mail to jenny.webster@derbyshire.gov.uk

Within four weeks of the publication of this notice, any person may object to or comment on the proposal by writing to the address or by sending an e-mail to the contact details below.

Jenny Webster, Head of Development, Derbyshire County Council, Room 178, County, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG or jenny.webster@derbyshire.gov.uk

The deadline for receiving responses is Friday 14 March 2024.



Carol Cammiss
Executive Director – Children’s Services