

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

Our Lady of Grace RC Primary School, 145 Charlton Road, Charlton, London, SE7 7EZ, a Voluntary Aided School.

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school .

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

It is proposed to expand Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic Primary School by enlargement of the physical accommodation available to the school and increasing the planned admission number for each year group from 30 places currently to 60 places with effect from the 2015/16 school year intake. The admission number will be 60 for Reception Year in 2015/16, 60 for Year 1 and Reception in 2016/17, and so on until 2021/22 when the admission number for all year age groups will be 60.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and

- (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

The date of publication of these proposals is the 7th January 2014. Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals i.e 4th February 2014, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by letter or email to the following address:

School Place Planning and Development,
Royal Borough of Greenwich Children's Services,
1st Floor, The Woolwich Centre,
35 Wellington Street
Woolwich, SE18 6HQ.
Email: philip.watson@royalgreenwich.gov.uk .

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

It is proposed to expand the school by the enlargement of the physical accommodation available to the school and increase the planned admission number for each year group from 30 places currently, to 60 places

The school is due to be rebuilt on a site adjacent to the current school building, and the proposal is to increase the capacity of the school at the same time in order to accommodate expected future demand for school places in the area. Details of building works required to accommodate the additional children will be agreed with the school and subject to the normal planning permission process.

School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The current capacity of the school is 200 and the proposed capacity will be 420.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

Currently 30 pupils may be admitted in each relevant age group.

It is proposed to expand the school by the enlargement of the physical accommodation available to the school and increase the planned admission number for each year group from 30 places currently, to 60 places with effect from the 2015/16 school year intake.

In the first year (2015/16), the admission number will be:

60 for Reception Year in 2015/16, and 30 for all other year groups.

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

Admission for each year group will change from the current 30, to 60, as follows:

Reception Year in 2015/16, Year 1 in 2016/17, Year 2 in 2017/18, Year 3 in 2018/19, Year 4 in 2019/20, Year 5 in 2020/21, Year 6 in 2021/22, so that in 2021/22 the admission number for all year age groups will be 60.

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

The expansion is planned to meet the expected increased demand for pupil places in the area. The proposal is that the number on roll will build up to a full 2FE over the period 2015-16 to 2021-22.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The current number of pupils aged 4-11 registered at the school is 206.

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

Not applicable

Additional Site

7.—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

The school is due to be rebuilt on a site on Highcombe, Charlton, which is adjacent to the current school site (which the school will vacate once the new building is available).

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

The Education Commission Catholic Diocese of Southwark already owns the new site, and will continue to do so.

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

N/A

- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

N/A

- (d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

N/A

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

N/A

- (b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

N/A

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

The school is due to be rebuilt on a single site adjacent to the current site (Highcombe, Charlton, SE7).

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

50 metres.

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

The proposed site was identified due to its proximity to the current site. It is no more than 50 metres from the current school site and it will thus cause minimum disruption to children currently at the school.

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

There is direct access to the proposed site from Highcombe.

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

Due to the proximity of the site to the current school there will no significant change in the transport arrangements for pupils.

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

Not Applicable

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The school is due to be rebuilt under the Government's Priority School Building Programme. The objective of this proposal is to increase the capacity of the school whilst it is being rebuilt in order to accommodate expected future demand for school places in the area.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—
- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
 - (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
 - (c) the views of the persons consulted;
 - (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and

- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

List of consultees attached (Annex A).

Notes of completed questionnaires received from consultees (Annex A).

Notes of public consultation meetings attached (Annex A).

Copies of consultation documents attached. Displayed on Royal Borough of Greenwich website, and sent to parents/carers and staff at the school via the school, also to relevant Trade Unions, and to other schools in the local area. Copies also available at all public meetings.

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

If the proposal to expand the school is agreed, the school will be rebuilt and funded directly under the Central Government's Priority School Building Programme.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

To be funded directly under the Central Government's Priority School Building Programme.

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

Not Applicable

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

Not Applicable

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

Not Applicable

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

Not Applicable

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

Not Applicable

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Not Applicable

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not Applicable

- (b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not Applicable

(c) Evidence —

(i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and

(ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not Applicable

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not Applicable

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Not Applicable

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

(a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

Not Applicable

(b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

Not Applicable

(c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

Not Applicable

(d) details of how the provision will be funded;

Not Applicable

(e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

Not Applicable

(f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

Not Applicable

(g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

Not Applicable

(h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

Not Applicable

(i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

Not Applicable

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

(a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

Not Applicable

(b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

Not Applicable

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

Not Applicable

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

Not Applicable

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

Not Applicable

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

Not Applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not Applicable

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

Not Applicable

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

Not Applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not Applicable

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

Not Applicable

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

Over the last four years the demand for Reception places at Royal Greenwich primary schools has risen by 23%. All the available data indicate that this trend will continue into the medium term. The January 2013 School Census reported 3505 pupils on roll in Reception in Royal Borough of Greenwich Schools, 185 more than in January 2010. Projections for demand for Reception places over the next four years estimate that in 2017/2018, there will be 3950 pupils requiring Reception places in RBG. If no action is taken more local children will be unable to gain a place at this successful and popular school, there will be an overall shortage of places in the area from September 2015, and more local children will have to travel further to secure a school place.

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

Currently there are more than four applications for every Reception place at this school, and is oversubscribed from the Catholic community. ONS Census data show

that around 53% of the Greenwich population describe themselves as Christians, and as the population increases these proposals will help maintain the balance of faith and community places available.

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

Not Applicable

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

Not Applicable

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Not Applicable

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

The Local Authority does not consider that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply.

Annex A

List of consultees

The following were consulted:

- the governing body, staff and teachers at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School;
- parents and pupils at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School;
- Diocesan Authorities -
 - Southwark Diocesan Board of Education,
 - Education Commission Catholic Diocese of Southwark;
- neighbouring Primary Schools at
 - Charlton Manor,
 - Cherry Orchard,
 - Fosdene,
 - Sherington,
 - Thorntree,
 - Invicta,
 - Halstow;
- Trade Unions: ATL, NAHT, NASUWT, NUT, UNISON, UNITE, GMB, ASCL.

Summary of issues raised in responses to questionnaires and at consultation meetings

QUESTIONNAIRES

Primary School	Support	Against	Indifferent/ Concerns (which were met)	Total	Summary of Comments and Issues Raised in Questionnaires
OLOG	11 (10 parent/ carers, and 1 resident)	13 (6 parent/ carers, 2 parent/ residents, 5 residents)	2	26	Supporters of the proposals acknowledged the need for new facilities and increased places providing more opportunities. One person suggested adding nursery provision as part of the new building. Concerns expressed by those who do not support the proposal included admissions of non-catholics and weakening of standards, ethos and sense of school community, and increased traffic. One expressed concern about large classes and small classrooms, which indicates a lack of understanding about the proposal. Four residents (2 against and 2 indifferent) also expressed concern about future use and development of the current site.

Meetings were held at the school at the times below:

Primary School	Date	Time
OLOG	21 st November 2013	09:00 – 10:00 19:00 – 20:00

Primary School	Attendees at consultation meetings	Summary of Comments and Issues Raised at Consultation meetings
OLOG	8 parents/carers, 10 residents, Chair of Governors, a Governor, representative of the Catholic Commission, Headteacher, 2	The views expressed at the meetings were mixed. The Headteacher and the school Governor were clearly supportive of the proposal, arguing that 2 FE was easier to manage in terms of attracting and retaining good staff and finances. There were a small number of parents/carers who expressed strong concerns about the school retaining its ethos (if it moves from 1 to 2 FE), the disadvantages of enlargement (“will the Head know all the pupils’ names”),

	RBG officers	concerns about admitting non-catholic pupils and possible changes to the admissions criteria, and the effect on some pupils of being part of a larger school, and direct access to the local church. Assurances were given that the school would continue with its current traditions and ethos, and there would be no changes to the admissions criteria. However, the school would benefit from a new, modern building, albeit on a new site. Residents and some parents/carers expressed concerns about increased traffic, parking, and safety for children. A parent/carer asked if it would be possible for the new build to go ahead without the expansion, the response being that it would be unlikely. Some residents were unclear about whether the school would be rebuilt on a new site, and when this was confirmed there was some concern about the future use and development of the current site. There would be keen interest in the detailed plans when these were drawn up.
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Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School

Proposal to Expand the Physical Capacity and the Planned Admission Number from 30 to 60 with Effect from September 2015

Consultation Document

1. Introduction

The Royal Borough of Greenwich has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places for all residents who apply for one. Over the last four years the demand for Reception Year places at Royal Greenwich primary schools has risen by 23% and all the available data indicate that this trend will continue into the medium term.

As part of the Council's strategy to ensure there are sufficient school places where and when they are required, the Royal Borough of Greenwich, the Governing Body of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School, and the Southwark Catholic Education Commission, would like to consult you about a proposal to expand the capacity of the school from 210 to 420 places with effect from September 2015.

This is the first stage of the consultation process and the purpose of this document is to set out, for your consideration, the information relevant to the proposal to expand the school. A questionnaire is attached and you are invited to tell us your views on the proposal by completing the questionnaire and returning it to the address provided.

2. Demand for places at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School is a popular and successful school which offers places for 210 children aged 4-11, including 30 Reception class places (i.e. one form of entry) serving Charlton. The demand for school places in this area has been rising over the last four years due to population growth, including inward migration attracted by new housing. The numbers of births in this ward has risen from 670 in 2006 to 816 in 2011, an increase of 22 per cent.

At the May 2013 School Census, there were 208 pupils on the roll at the school which meant that there were only two vacancies across the whole school. For admission in September 2013, there were 139 applications for the 30 Reception Year places available. This means that more local children are unable to gain a place at this successful school. Moreover, children whose parents move into the area after the start of the school year are unlikely to secure a place even if the school is the nearest to where they live.

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School is judged to be a good school by Ofsted. The Governing Body and the Council are confident that the school has the capacity and leadership to continue to provide high quality education with a higher roll.

The existing school building is in poor condition and the agreement of central government has been secured for the school to be rebuilt under the Priority School Building Programme. The rebuilding of the school is scheduled to start in 2014/15 and the plans present an opportunity for the school to be expanded to two forms of entry to cater for the predicted level of future demand.

3. Proposal to Increase the Capacity and Planned Admission Number of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School

In response to the growing pressure for primary school places in this area and particularly for places at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School, the Governing Body of the school and the Royal Borough of Greenwich are proposing to enlarge the school and increase its total capacity from 210 places to 420 places, on a permanent basis, starting from September 2015. This will mean that the school will have capacity for two forms of entry, i.e. a total of 60 places for each year group, starting with the Reception Year in 2015. The total school roll will then increase year by year until it reaches its full capacity of 420 in 2021.

The admission criteria and arrangements will remain the same, but it is anticipated that the increase in the school's capacity will enable more local children to be admitted on the basis of the distance to school criterion.

If this proposal to enlarge the school and increase its capacity is agreed, it is not expected to have any detrimental impact on the roll of other schools in the immediate local area.

4. Capital Requirement

If the proposal is agreed, the school will be rebuilt on a nearby site with the accommodation and facilities to support the expansion of the school to 420 places. The scheme will be funded under the government's Priority School Building Programme and will be completed in time for the first intake of 60 Reception Year pupils in September 2015.

5. Tell us your views

The Governing Body and the Royal Borough of Greenwich would like to hear your views on the proposal above. This consultation period will run from Monday 11th November to Friday 6th December 2013.

Your comments will be taken into account before a decision is made by the Council later this year on whether to publish the formal Statutory Notice required to expand the school. If the decision is taken to proceed with the publication of the Statutory Notice, there will be a further period of 4 weeks for representations to be made to the Council.

At the end of the period for representation, the Council will make the final decision as to whether or not to expand the school, taking into account all comments and views expressed during the consultations and representation periods.

6. How to Find Out More about the Proposal

There will be 2 consultation meetings about the proposal at the school **on Thursday 21st November** as follows:

- **9.00 a.m – 10.00 a.m** - mainly for pupils and parents with children at the school
- **7.00 p.m – 8.00 p.m** - for residents, parents, school governors and all other interested parties.

Council officers, as well as the Headteacher and representatives from the governing body will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have.

Please complete and return the attached Questionnaire by post or email to:

The Head of School Place Planning and Development
Royal Borough of Greenwich Children's Services
1st Floor, The Woolwich Centre
Wellington Street
Woolwich SE18 6HQ

Email: patrick.elliott@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

A special drop- in box for completed questionnaires is located in the reception area of the school.
The final date for receipt of the completed questionnaire or any views or comments is **3.30p.m. on Friday 6th December 2013.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Primary School

Consultation on Proposal to Expand the School

Please let us have your views and comments on the proposal to permanently expand the capacity of the school from 210 places to 420, starting from September 2015.

1. Tell us if you are a: (Tick as appropriate)

1.1 At this school

Parent/Carer Local Resident

Pupil Teacher

Governor School Staff

Other (please specify)

1.2 At other Local Schools

Parent/Carer Local Resident

Pupil Teacher

Governor School Staff

Other (please specify)

2. Do you support the proposal to expand the school?

Yes No Indifferent

If you do not support the proposal, please state reason(s).

3. How do you think the expanded school will impact upon:

3.1 Other primary schools in the area

3.2 Choice of local schools available for local children.

More Choice

Less Choice

No Difference

4. Which of the following factors most influenced your choice of this school for your child?

(Tick more than one if necessary)

Academic results

School Ethos

Discipline

Inclusion (Opportunities for All)

Nearness to Home

School Building and Facilities

5. Any other Comments