

# **Alderwood Primary School**

## **Consultation Document**

### **Proposal to enlarge and increase the Published Admission Number of the school from September 2013**

#### **1. Introduction**

The governing body of Alderwood Primary School and the Royal Borough of Greenwich are consulting on a proposal to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) of Alderwood Primary School from 30 to 60 for each year group from September 2013. This is required to meet the growing demand for primary school places in the borough.

This is the first stage of the consultation process and the purpose of this document is to set out in detail the background and other information relevant to the proposal to expand the school. A questionnaire is attached and you are kindly requested to tell us your views on the proposal by completing the questionnaire and returning it to the address provided.

#### **2. Overview - The Demand for Primary School Places**

Alderwood Primary School is a popular school with a planned admission capacity of 210 places – 30 places for each year group. The Nursery has 52 places and the school is in School Planning Area 5.

The total number of pupils on roll within this school planning area has increased by 3% in the last three years and the projections indicate that this trend will continue for the foreseeable future as the birth rate has been rising. The number of babies born annually to residents of the ward increased from 141 in 2006 to peak at 179 in 2010 before falling to 167 in 2011.

In the period since September 2010, the Royal Borough of Greenwich has established 2,415 additional permanent primary school places, including 346 Reception class places; equivalent to 11.5 forms of entry. The majority of these places are in Thamesmead, Abbey Wood and Woolwich Riverside. Moreover, in response to the growing pressure for primary school places, the governors of this school agreed in March 2011 to a temporary increase in the admission number for the school for September 2012 from 30 to 60 places to ensure there are sufficient places for all applicants.

It is against this background that the Royal Borough of Greenwich is planning additional permanent primary school capacity to ensure there are sufficient school places over the next three years to meet the projected level of demand.

#### **3. Consultation Proposal**

The governing body and the Royal Borough of Greenwich would like to hear from you on this proposal to make the increase to the planned admission number from 30 to 60 permanently, with effect from September 2013. This will mean the school will have 2 permanent classes of 30 pupils each, starting with Reception Year in 2013 and building up until 2019. This will make a total of 60 places for each year- age cohort.

Currently, more than 73% of children attending the school live in the SE9 post code area and the changes will not affect children currently at the school or applicants with a sibling at the school. All other admissions criteria will remain the same. The implementation of this proposal for Alderwood Primary School will also not have any detrimental impact on the roll of other local schools as they are already operating at or near their full capacity.

#### **4. Capital Requirements**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich will provide the additional accommodation and external play facilities appropriate for a primary school with 2 forms of entry.

#### **5. Tell us your views/ comments**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich and the governors of this school would like to hear your views on the proposals set out above.

This consultation period will run until **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013**.

Your views will be taken into account before a decision is made by the Royal Borough of Greenwich on whether to formally publish the statutory Notice required for expansion of a school by enlargement as set out in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the (School Organisation and Governance (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2009 (Expanding a Maintained Mainstream School by Enlargement).

Once the Notice is published, there will be a further period of 4 weeks for representations to be made to the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

At the end of the “Representation” period the Royal Borough of Greenwich will make the final decision as to whether or not to expand school, taking into account all comments and views expressed during the consultations and representation period, in accordance with guidance set by government.

There will be 2 information sessions about the proposal on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013 in the school hall as follows:**

- **9.00 a.m - 10.00 a.m** - morning session mainly for pupils and parents with children at the school
- **6.30 p.m – 7.30 p.m** - evening session for residents, parents, school governors and all other interested parties.

Representatives from the governing body, Headteacher and Officers from the Royal Borough of Greenwich 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  
Floor 3 The Woolwich Centre  
35 Wellington Street  
Woolwich SE18 6HQ  
Email: [patrick.elliott@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.elliott@greenwich.gov.uk)

A special drop- in box for completed questionnaires is also located in the reception area of the school.

The final date for receipt of the completed questionnaire or any views or comments is **3.00 p.m. on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013**.

We look forward to hearing from you.