



# Final Proposal Document

**Harborne Primary School**

*Proposal for enlargement of  
a community primary school  
by expansion.*

## Introduction

Birmingham City Council, as the local authority for Birmingham, in collaboration with the leadership and Governing Body of the School, is consulting on a proposal to make certain changes to Harborne Primary School. These changes are explained in the sections below.

## School Information

<b>Type:</b>	Community		
<b>Name:</b>	Harborne Primary School	<b>DFE:</b>	3302477
<b>Address:</b>	Station Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 9LU.		
<b>Ward:</b>	Harborne.	<b>District:</b>	Edgbaston.
<b>Age Range:</b>	4 to 11 years	<b>Capacity:</b>	630
<b>Last Ofsted:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2014	<b>Ofsted Rating</b>	Outstanding

## What changes are proposed?

We are proposing to carry out the following changes to Harborne Primary School:

- Enlarge the school by expansion to create capacity for an additional 210 Primary age pupils on an additional site (annex) at:
  - Court Oak Road, Harborne B17 9AB;
- So, increase the capacity of the school from 630 to 840 pupil places (3FE to 4FE) starting from September 2019.

## Why do we want to do this?

Birmingham City Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places and is proposing to deliver the above prescribed changes through our Basic Need Programme for Additional Primary Places.

A previous proposal to expand Harborne Primary School was approved by the Governing Body of the school in December 2014 for implementation in September 2016. The approved proposal was to expand the school from 630 places, to 1050 places, with an annex onto the site of Lordswood Girls School. The approved proposal will not be implemented due to unresolvable difficulties relating to the planning process; and was revoked (formally cancelled) by the Governing Body on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

There is still a need for additional primary places across the city and there is evidence of demand for places in the Harborne ward.

To meet immediate local demand, Harborne Primary School is offering an additional 30 places in Reception for September 2018, within available temporary space at Station Road. If our proposal to expand onto an additional site is approved, the additional temporary class (30 places) will be absorbed into the total places available and likely move to the new annex from September 2019. (If the proposal for permanent expansion is not approved, the additional temporary class will move through the school's year groups and leave the school after Year 6 in 2024).

**Evidence of Demand:**

Birmingham has seen a 21% increase in birth rates since 2001. The number of children and young people in the city has increased over that time as a result of birth rates, as well as more pupils moving in, out and around the city. This increased demand is particularly prominent in some areas of the city and has an impact on the availability of school places. There is specific need for additional Primary age places in Harborne Ward; with on average 320 births per year (for Reception entry in 2017 to 2020) compared to 270 available Reception places. This area does not replicate the city trend which shows a reduction in demand for Reception entry in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Currently the shortfall in Reception places means that some pupils are being displaced to neighbouring planning areas.

The Local Authority is mindful that any potential or future Free Schools around the area will affect local supply of places. The Local Authority considers that an expansion of 210 primary places in this local area for 2019 is sufficient to meet current need. The annex site has potential for further expansion in the future, should continuous monitoring indicate the demand.

**When will these changes happen?**

If the proposal is approved by the decision makers at Birmingham City Council, (following full consultation) it is intended that the proposals will be implemented from **1<sup>st</sup> September 2019**.

**Why has this school been chosen?**

During the Birmingham City Council annual sufficiency process (sufficient school place planning), all schools that are interested in taking additional pupils are asked to submit an Expression of Interest (Eoi) to Education Infrastructure.

An expression of interest was originally submitted by the school to Education & Skills Infrastructure in February 2014.

This expression of interest was successfully evaluated by Education Infrastructure officers in conjunction with representatives from the Head Teacher Forum and Birmingham Education Partnership. The evaluation is based on:

- Location: How well the provision is located to match predicted growth
- Standards: Expanding schools should be Outstanding or Good\*
- Capacity: Viability of providing suitable accommodation on site, within existing space and within planning / site constraints
- Popularity: Current waiting lists
- Balance: Potential of any expansion to create overprovision or inequality in an area

The resulting proposal for expansion onto the site of Lordswood Girls School, in consultation with Birmingham City Council, was made and approved by the Governing Body. That original proposal and decision was recently revoked (formally cancelled) by the Governing Body (4<sup>th</sup> November 2017) as it could not be implemented due to unresolvable issues during the planning process.

As the evidence of demand still exists, Birmingham City Council, in collaboration with the school, are making this fresh proposal to expand onto Court Oak Road, from September 2019 (ref: SOT10121).

**Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?**

There should be no negative effect on the other schools within the local area as the demand for places is still high with local schools over 1 mile all operating at full capacity in Reception. The additional places will increase opportunities for parental choice in the local area and an opportunity to support sustainable travel by reducing the distance that pupils travel to school. Having too many primary school places is not considered to be a risk in this local area.

**How will this affect pupils at the school?**

Starting from September 2019 it is proposed that the school will grow through the normal admission round, year by year, to a new capacity of 840 pupil places. It is intended that a new Reception class and the additional Year 1 class will move from the Station Road site to the Court Oak Road Annex.

The proposed annex will be an extension of Harborne Primary School so will continue to be run under the same School Leadership and Governing Body. Pupils at the school will continue to experience the same ethos and principles of the school. Pupils will integrate across and between the schools sites for whole school or curriculum events/activities. Pupils will walk between sites in the same way they walk with staff within the Harborne area for access to Metchley playing field and the swimming baths.

As the expansion will be onto an additional site, pupils attending Harborne Primary School at Station Road will not be affected by any building work to establish the annex.

There will be no change to the way that admission arrangements are coordinated for the school. Over-subscription criteria for admission into the school will continue to apply. The distance criteria will be based on straight line distance from the applicant's home address to the centre of the main school building on Station Road. Admissions will not be based on how near a child may live to the proposed annexe on Court Oak Road. The school will manage any sensible arrangements to locate and, or, support siblings across the two school sites.

**How will this affect staff?**

Staff will experience a larger school which could offer more opportunities for professional development. Staff will also experience the same ethos and leadership across the sites. Principle, Head of the School and other senior staff will work across and spend time at both sites. Specialist support staff (e.g. SENCO) will also work across both sites of the school. Other staffing may change between the sites annually or periodically, as necessary and sensible. Any group training or development will be completed with all appropriate staff together at one of the sites.

**Will there be changes to the school building?**

The building work will be on the Court Oak Road site and should not impact on the day to day running of Harborne Primary School on Station Road.

The building(s) at the Court Oak Road annex will provide education space built to the required government standards and will include spaces for teaching, officers, support facilities and outdoor areas. This proposal is subject to achieving all relevant approvals for implementation which includes receiving planning permission for the building work (submitted for planning approval 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017).

If all relevant approvals are received, building work will be complete by March 2019, in time to offer additional places in September 2019.

**Travel and Transport:**

The proposed site of the annex is 0.67 miles (1.1 kilometres) from Harborne Primary School main site at Station Road. The location of the annex may provide an opportunity to support sustainable travel by pupils in the local area and pupils will walk with staff between the two sites when required. The school's travel plan will be updated to reflect the annex. Traffic and transport are also considered during the planning application process which involves highway engineers and public consultation. Interested parties are encouraged to engage with the public planning consultation in relation to traffic and parking issues. This planning reference links to the planning application [2017/10321/PA](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20088/2017/10321/PA).

**What are the project costs for this proposal and how is it funded?**

The project costs for the creation of the annex will be approximately £6.2 million and will be funded by the Local Authority through the Basic Need Programme for Additional Primary Places. The annex has been designed with ancillary spaces for future flexibility and to alleviate space constraints that exist on the main school site. This provides value for money by providing the Local Authority with flexibility for the provision of primary places in future and the school flexibility to meet the educational needs of the pupils.

**Will this definitely happen?**

No, there is a statutory process we must follow to make these sorts of changes to schools.

There has been extensive public engagement around the demand for places and the expansion of Harborne Primary School. This document forms part of the statutory consultation (representation period) for the fresh proposal for a Harborne Primary School annex on Court Oak Road.

Within two months of the end of the representation period, a decision must be made by the Council's Cabinet Member for Children Families and Schools, jointly with the Interim Corporate Director for Children and Young People.

It is only after a decision that we will be able to say with certainty whether or not the school will expand onto an additional site. **The decision will be published on the consultation webpage:** [www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal)

### **What will happen if this proposal is rejected?**

If it is decided that Harborne Primary School should not expand onto an additional site, the school will remain at its current capacity within the existing school buildings. The additional Reception class for September 2018 will work through the year groups until the pupils leave. The Local Authority will consider what alternative action or proposals can be made to ensure sufficient school places.

### **How can I make comments?**

We invite all interested people to give us their comments on this proposal.

**Any comments must be received no later than 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

You can comment online via:

[www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal)

You can write to us at the Local Authority:

- By email: [eds.enquiries@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:eds.enquiries@birmingham.gov.uk)
- By letter or sending the attached comments form to:  
Birmingham City Council,  
School Organisation Team,  
PO Box 15843,  
Birmingham, B2 2RT.

### **What happens next?**

The following key dates are for guidance only. At any point during the process, the proposal could be withdrawn or rejected by the City Council. The dates set out below meet the government requirements for us to consult fully with the people affected by the proposal. Every effort will be made to keep to these dates.

#### Key dates (subject to change)

Action	Date
Statutory notice to be published	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Beginning of 4 week representation period	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
End of 4 week representation period	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
Final decision to be made no later than	7 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Additional places available (if approved)	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2019

#### Groups consulted:

Parents, pupils, school staff, school governors, Birmingham Schools, Local Councillors, Local Member of Parliament, neighbouring Local Authorities, Diocesan Schools Commission, The Diocese of Birmingham, Teaching Associations and Trade Unions; and Local Authority officers.

## Proposal to enlarge Harborne Primary School by expansion

We are consulting on the proposals for four weeks from 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

You can make your views known by visiting:

[www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/harbornefinal) to send us your thoughts by **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018** or alternatively complete and return the form below to the following address: School Organisation Team, Education and Skills Infrastructure, PO Box 15843, Birmingham, B2 2RT.

Thank you for taking the time to send us your thoughts on these proposals.

### Consultation Response Form

Please help us to analyse your response by completing the following:

Your name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Your contact details (optional, if you would like a reply)

\_\_\_\_\_

Your interest in the proposal (please indicate one of the below):

Pupil	
Parent	
School Governor	
School Staff	
Local resident	
Local Councillor	
Member of Parliament	
Other (please specify)	

Please provide your comments in support or challenge to the proposal.

Additional comments: