

Proposal to Alter the Upper Age Range and Remove Sixth Form Provision

Proposal of the Governing Body of King's Norton Boys' School

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS

Section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006

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.

King's Norton Boys' School, Northfield Road, Birmingham B30 1DY A foundation secondary school.

2. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

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.

31st August 2018

3. Objections and comments

A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —

- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with Schedule 3 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 20013, by which objections or comments should be sent to the local authority; and
- (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on any or all of the proposals by visiting;

An online BeHeard survey (https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/kingsnortonboys) (open on 5th January)

or, by writing to School Organisation Team, Education and Skills Infrastructure, PO Box 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT.

The representation period will start on 5th January 2017 and run for four weeks. The last date for comments is 2nd February 2017 (midnight.)

Full details on the proposals, including copies of the public notice and consultation

document can be found on these webpages.

Within two months of the end of the representation period (by 2nd April 2017) all comments along with a report will be presented to Cabinet member for Children Families and Schools and the Strategic Director for People for a decision on the proposal.

4. Alteration description

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

Alteration of the upper age limit of the school.

The current age range of the school is 11 -18 years

The proposed age range of the school is 11 -16 years

This will result in the closure of the sixth form.

5. School capacity

- 1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, the proposals 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 admission capacity of the school, including sixth form is 728 (128 in Year 7, 120 in each of Years 8-11, plus 120 in the sixth form).

As well as the proposal to remove the sixth form the school is planning on increasing the admission number in Year 7 to 150 from September 2018. This would eventually lead to an admission capacity of 750 by September 2022.

(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;

The sixth form currently offers 120 places across Years 12 and 13

The proposal is to not admit any new students to the sixth form for September 2017 and close the sixth form with effect from 31st August 2018.

(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;

It is proposed that the school will not admit any students to Year 12 in September 2017. In order to comply with the Admission Code of Practice the school is carrying out an additional consultation, prior to seeking approval from the Office of The Schools Adjudicator, to allow the school to not admit students into Year 12 in September 2017.

Current Year 12 students will move into Year 13 to complete their A levels during 2017/18. It is proposed that the sixth form provision will close with effect from 31st August 2018 when all Year 13 students have left the sixth form.

(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.

Where the number of pupils on roll in any relevant year group is lower than the admission number, this is as a result of movement during the year. Birmingham currently has a high level of net cohort growth meaning that the level of places available can change greatly over the year in different areas of the city as families arrive requiring school provision.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The total number of students on roll as at December 2016: Year 9 Year 10 Year 12 Year 13 Total Year 7 Year 8 Year 11 123 119 117 103 58 31 663 112

6. Implementation

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.

The proposal if approved will be implemented by the Governing Body. The implementation date is 31st August 2018.

7. Additional Site

Not applicable.

8. Changes in boarding arrangements

Not applicable.

9. Transfer to new site

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

11. Objectives

The objectives of the proposal.

The Governing Body is proposing to alter the upper age limit at King's Norton Boys' School from 18 to 16. This will result in the closure of the sixth form provision at the school.

Current Year 12 students will transition to Year 13 in September 2017 to complete their A level studies. They will be the school's final cohort of sixth form students and therefore sixth form provision will come to an end on 31st August 2018. The school will become an 11-16 school with effect from 1st September 2018.

The school is proposing to stop admitting students to Year 12 from September 2017. As explained in Section 5c the school is carrying out an additional consultation, prior to seeking approval from the Office of The Schools Adjudicator, in order to make this change to its admission arrangements for September 2017.

Birmingham City Council has published 'Guiding Principles for School Sixth Forms' which sets out that the school sixth forms must demonstrate quality, choice, progression and viability. Nationally published guidance from the Department for Education stipulates that a sustainable sixth form would require a roll of at least 200 students. King's Norton Boys' School has seen its provision reduce from 119 students in 2015/16 to 89 in 2016/17. Meanwhile, when the school recently canvased its current cohort of 103 Year 11 students, just 29 boys said they planned to join the sixth form in September 2017.

King's Norton Boys' School finds itself feeling the pressures on post-16 funding. A freeze on the national funding rate for the past four years, coupled with the rising costs of delivery, has resulted in the school having to subsidise the sixth form from its pre-16 budget. The school estimates that around £400,000 of its budget for its pupils in Years 7 to 11 is being used to plug the funding gap for the sixth form. Projected figures show that the school is facing a deficit growing to £800,000 within the next three years should the sixth form remain open.

The school aims to become rated by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' and it is clear that, while it continues to struggle to sustain its sixth form, this is becoming an increasingly difficult goal to achieve.

By lowering the age range from 11 to 18 to 11 to 16, valuable teaching resources will be freed-up to be used more efficiently and effectively across Years 7 to 11. This will help the school in its drive to improve standards and achieve better academic results.

12. Consultation

Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- a list of persons who were consulted;
- minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- the views of the persons consulted;
- a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

All statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with. Due regard and careful consideration was given to the guidance contained within "Making prescribed alterations to maintained schools "Statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers - April 2016".

- All individuals or bodies suggested in the guidance are being consulted and their views considered
- As part of an initial pre-statutory consultation, all students, parents teaching and non-teaching staff were sent a consultation document (Appendix 1) week commencing 21st November 2016.
- The Local Authority was consulted on the statutory proposal.
- All teaching associations and trade unions, The Archdiocesan and The Anglican Diocese of Birmingham, Executive Members for Selly Oak, ward councillors for Bournville and all neighbouring authorities have been advised of the statutory consultation.
- An online response BeHeard survey
 (https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/kingsnortonboys) will open 5th January for consultees to respond during the representation period.
- Within two months of the end of the representation period (by 2nd April 2017) all
 comments along with a report will be presented to Cabinet member for Children
 Families and Schools and the Strategic Director for People for a decision on the
 proposal.

13. Project costs

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 authority, and any other party.

There are no capital project costs involved in the proposal to alter the upper age limit.

A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local 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).

All costs for the publication of the public notice will be met by the Governing Body of King's Norton Boys' School.

14. Age range

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

11 to 18 years

15. Early year's provision

Not Applicable

16. Changes to sixth form provision

(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.

The proposal is to remove current sixth form provision at the school.

(b) 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.

The Local Authority has a duty under section 15ZD of the Education Act 1996 to secure suitable and sufficient places in education and training provision to meet the reasonable needs of young people aged 16-19 in its area and those aged 19-25 with a current Education, Health and Care Plan.

In the context of this proposal, the Local Authority determines that there are sufficient places available within reasonable travel-to-learn distances within local post-16 providers neighbouring King's Norton Boy's School. Places are available within walking distances and short bus journeys. This includes places for A Level courses within a five-mile radius at the following school sixth forms:

- King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys
- King Edward VI Five Ways School
- Kings Norton Girls' School
- Lordswood Sixth Form
- Shenley Academy
- St Thomas Aquinas School
- University of Birmingham School

In addition to the sixth form providers detailed above, there are also a wide variety of vocational courses available at nearby colleges. These include Bournville College, which offers 2,200 places and qualifications from entry level to Level 3.

There are also over 30 A Level courses and additional vocational courses at Level 2 and 3 available at Cadbury Sixth Form College, which has 900 places.

The Local Authority considers that this proposal will not result in the displacement of young people nor impact negatively on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

17. Special educational needs.

- Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs.
- Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs
- 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

Not applicable

18. Sex of pupils

- 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 –
- 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

Not applicable

19. Extended services

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**

20. Need or demand for additional places

Not applicable

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Consultation document

These resources can be accessed by visiting

https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/kingsnortonboys



Statutory Notice

Proposal by the Governing Body of King's Norton Boys' School.

Notice is given in accordance with section 19 (3) of the Education & Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of King's Norton Boys' School proposes to make a prescribed alteration to King's Norton Boys' School (a foundation school), Northfield Road, Birmingham B30 1DY, namely to alter the age range of the school from 11 - 18 to 11 - 16 with effect from 31st August 2018.

The Governing Body is proposing that the school would stop offering sixth form places and that no Year 12 students will be admitted to the sixth form in September 2017. However, as the school's admission arrangements have already been determined for September 2017, the school is required to also ask the Schools' Adjudicator for permission to change the arrangements.

The current capacity of the sixth form is 120 – of which 50 places are reserved for external applicants.

The proposed capacity of the sixth form is 0.

Maran Collyer.

This notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be found on line (www.kingsnortonboys.bham.sch.uk) or can be obtained from the school by writing to Mrs Sarah Holland, PA to Headteacher, King's Norton Boys' School, Northfield Road, Birmingham B30 1DY.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these proposals should either make comments through the Birmingham Beheard website:

https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/kingsnortonboys

Or by writing to the School Organisation Team Education and Skills Infrastructure, PO Box 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT. The date by which objections or comments must be received by is midnight on Thursday 2 February 2017.

APPENDIX 1

Andrew Collyer Chair of Governors

Publication date: 5 January 2017