



BOROUGH OF POOLE

Consultation Document

Proposal to expand Lilliput CE VC First School

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Summary

The Borough of Poole and the Governors and Head teacher of Lilliput School are proposing a change in the numbers of children who will enter the school from 2009.

This document explains the proposal and asks for your views.

If you require this document in a different language please contact:
Nicola Keynes, Senior Education Officer (Planning and Development)
Children and Young People's Services – Strategy, Quality and
Improvement, Borough of Poole, Civic Centre, Poole BH15 2RU
01202 633276



Lilliput CE (VC) First School

Dear Parents,

The Vision for Lilliput C.E. VC First School – 2013

As you are now aware, due to over subscription for places at Lilliput and more families living within the catchment area, there are proposals for us to become a three-form entry school. Until 2013 we will remain as a First School taking children from Reception through to Year 3.

In 2013 we will become an Infant school with children transferring to the next school at the end of Year 2. Ultimately this will mean a school roll of 270 children. However, if this proposal goes ahead, in the transition period the school roll will grow incrementally to 360 children.

Thus, over the coming few years we could be faced with two key challenges – how can we accommodate a possible extra 120 children during the transition period and how would we wish to extend and refurbish our current building? We may have a wonderful opportunity to create a school building that really does meet our needs and those required of our youngsters for life in the 21st Century.

In preparation for a possible expansion of the site, Governors and staff are currently considering how to make the most of this opportunity. Areas under consideration include the following:

- The Reception unit is not only separate from the main school building but its design has created huge acoustic difficulties for anyone working within this space. One of the plans being discussed at this time is to create a third Reception classroom by joining the current building onto the main building and to completely refurbish the inside of the existing two Reception classes
- A studio for music and drama, something we have always wanted
- Larger resource areas for staff
- A main entrance to the school that is clearly visible and parent friendly
- Improved toilet facilities for both children and staff
- A dedicated meeting room for parents to meet not only with each other but also with staff and other professionals involved with their child's care. Many schools already have this facility.

There are many other 'niggles' that could now be resolved during the refurbishment programme.

Overall, our vision is that we all want a building that is modern, has the latest technology and one that is not only child friendly, but parent friendly too.

The governing body at the school is also determined not only to secure a building fit for purpose but to maintain the very high standards that Lilliput is renowned for, both during the transition period and in the future, building on these wherever possible.

During this time we would all need to work harder and support each other even more in order to retain our 'outstanding' position within the community. There are going to be many challenges along the way but in order to reach the final goal of having a school that really does meet the needs of the community, the support given by the community to the project will be critical.

A consultation period will begin after Christmas and a public meeting will be held at the school on **Wednesday 4th February at 7pm**. We hope that as many parents as possible will be able to attend, not only to hear the proposals for the school's possible expansion, but to ensure that everyone's views are heard too.

The governors and staff are currently working very hard behind the scenes to agree on plans for the proposed building works and we are all committed to ensuring that parent views are also taken on board.

Whilst we will do everything possible to keep everyone fully informed, please also take the opportunity of responding to the consultation and attending the public meeting so that your views can be taken into account.

Julie E. Jeans
Head Teacher

Mrs. A-M. Lush
Chair of Governors

PROPOSAL TO EXPAND LILLIPUT CE VC FIRST SCHOOL

CURRENT POSITION

Currently Lilliput CE VC First School is a 2 form of entry First School (60 places) for children aged 4-7 (Reception to Year 3).

In 2013 the Borough of Poole will change the age at which children transfer from Primary phase schools to Secondary schools to age 11. When that change takes effect and pupils move to Secondary school at age 11 instead of age 12 as they do now, Lilliput CE VC First School will become an Infant school for children aged 4-6 (Reception to Year 2).

The latest school pupil forecasts show that from 2008 the fall in the number of Primary pupils will stop. The rise in the birth rate since 2002, coupled with increased migration and the new build developments in Poole, will lead to an increase in the number of Reception age children and pupil numbers at Primary level over the next five years and beyond. The trend is not a steady one and we expect there to be fluctuations since we cannot be sure where those births will take place.

The rise in the number of 4 year olds for the Borough of Poole as a whole is estimated to be over 200 children between 2008 and 2012. However, this increase is unlikely to be distributed evenly across the Borough. Some schools will be able to absorb much of this increase due to current spare capacity as a result of the recent falling rolls but where rising births combine with popular schools with no spare capacity and the added pressure from new build developments, there is likely to be significant pressure for school places.

Parkstone, Penn Hill and Canford Cliffs are currently key areas of growth in the number of 0-4 year olds and the Council has identified a need for additional school places in Year R in these areas.

PROPOSAL

For the 2009/10 school year, it has already been agreed that the Published Admission Number of Lilliput CE VC First School will be increased by 1 form of entry (30 places) to provide additional school places in Year R. This means there will be 3 forms of entry (90 places).

It is now proposed that the school should increase in size year on year, so that the overall capacity of the school increases from 240 to 360 with 3 forms of entry (90 places) throughout the school to accommodate 4 year groups (Year R and Years 1, 2 and 3).

However, when the change in the age of transfer takes effect in 2013 and the school becomes an Infant school for pupils age 4-6 (Years R, 1 and 2), the school will only need a capacity of 270.

Therefore, it is proposed that the additional accommodation provided between 2009 and 2013 will be a mixture of high quality, temporary accommodation and an extension and adaption of the existing school building.

FIRST STAGE – THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Borough of Poole wishes to consult parents, governors and staff of the school concerned and neighbouring education authorities, as well as other interested parties.

A public meeting will be held at Lilliput CE VC First School at 7 pm on Wednesday 4th February 2009. At this meeting there will be an opportunity to ask questions of the head teacher and governors of the school, as well as officers from the Local Authority. There will also be a presentation on the Council's plans to extend and adapt the school buildings to accommodate the additional pupils.

You are invited to complete the Response Form enclosed at the back of this document. This document can also be accessed and a Response Form completed online via the following website www.boroughofpoole.com

Parents are asked to complete one form only, irrespective of how many children they might have attending the school. Forms must be returned by **Friday 13th February 2009** at the latest to:

Nicola Keynes
Senior Education Officer (Planning and Development)
Children and Young People's Services – Strategy, Quality and Improvement,
Borough of Poole, Civic Centre, Poole BH152RU
Tel: 01202 633691 Fax 01202 633866.
Email: n.keynes@poole.gov.uk.

At the end of the consultation period written responses will be summarised in a report to the Council which will make a decision on how best to proceed. All views expressed will be taken into account, but it should be emphasised that the Response Forms do **not** represent a ballot.

THE NEXT STAGE

If the Council decides to go ahead with the proposal, Public Notices will be published in the local newspaper and at the school. There is then a period of four weeks during which time formal objections/comments may be submitted to the address above.

OUTCOME

At the end of the Public Notice period, the matter will be referred to the Cabinet of the Council, which has the power to approve the proposal or not. Cabinet will see all the responses received.

OPTIONS

The following options are under consideration:

Option 1 Increase from 2 form of entry (60 places) to 3 forms of entry (90 places) with effect from September 2009 and for each year thereafter.

This means that the overall capacity of the school will increase from 240 to 360 and the school will become 3 forms of entry (90 places) throughout to accommodate 4 year groups (Year R and Years 1, 2 and 3).

However, when the change in the age of transfer takes effect in 2013 and the school becomes an Infant school for pupils age 4-6 (Years R, 1 and 2), the school will only need a capacity of 270.

Option 2 No change.

This means that from September 2010 Lilliput CE VC First School will revert to a two form of entry (60 places per year group).

Option 3 Any other new option which may arise during the course of the consultation.

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION IF THE PROPOSAL TO PURSUE OPTION 1 WERE ADOPTED

STAFFING AND CURRICULUM IMPLICATIONS

The school's staffing will be increased to meet the needs of delivering the curriculum within the school's budget. The school's budget will be increased to reflect the increased number of pupils and increased floor area of the school.

The school's revenue budget will be increased in accordance with the 'LA formula' as the new parts of the building are brought into use. This will provide additional funding to meet increased costs based on the new floor area of the school. Funding for the education of the additional pupils will also be provided in accordance with the 'LA formula.' This funding is based on the number of pupils in the school on the schools census day in January each year.

BUILDING IMPLICATIONS

The accommodation for Lilliput CE VC First School will need to be extended and adapted to accommodate 120 additional pupils so that the capacity of the school will increase from 240 to 360.

However, when the change in the age of transfer takes effect in 2013 and the school becomes an Infant school for pupils age 4-6 (Years R, 1 and 2), the school will only need a capacity of 270. Therefore, it is proposed that the additional accommodation provided between 2009 and 2013 will be a mixture of high quality, temporary accommodation and an extension and adaption of the existing school building.

The proposed building plans will be presented at the public meeting to be held on **Wednesday 4th February 2009** and will also be available for inspection at the school during the following week (5th to 12th February 2009) for those unable to attend the meeting.

The Council will work closely with the Head teacher, staff, governors and parents to ensure minimum disruption to pupils, parents and local residents during the course of the building project.

COST IMPLICATIONS

The capital costs of expanding the school will be funded from the Primary Capital Programme which is a national programme of capital investment intended to replace, remodel or refurbish around 50% of Primary schools in England. It is much more than a building programme and aims to create Primary schools that are:

- Equipped for 21st century learning
- At the heart of the community
- With a range of children's services in reach of every family.

The school will also contribute devolved capital funding to the project.

The school will also receive an increase in capital funding from the Department for Children, Schools and Families to meet on-going capital costs based on the increased floor area. This funding is calculated as a flat rate per school plus a rate per pupil.

DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT DURING BUILDING

The pressures on a school that can come from any building works, can be managed with care by the school, LA and site contractor who will be appointed with the consideration of the school carrying on as normal during build work.

Children's safety during building is our main aim and we endeavour to reduce the disruption caused by any work. Other schools have benefited from incorporating the building works into the curriculum.

CONCLUSION

The proposal to expand Lilliput CE VC First School will assist in meeting the need for additional First School places in the Lilliput area. It will provide opportunities to refurbish and extend the school and make possible positive changes to the way learning takes place in an already outstanding school.

Consultation Response Form

Proposal to expand Lilliput CE VC First School

Please indicate your preference by placing a tick in the appropriate box below, and comment if you wish, in support of your preference in the space provided.

	Tick (✓)
I support the proposal to expand Lilliput CE VC First School from 2 forms of entry (60 places) to 3 forms of entry (90 places) from September 2009 onwards to meet the need for additional school places in the Lilliput area and to support the vision for the school as set out above.	
I do not support the proposal to expand Lilliput CE VC First School from 2 forms of entry (60 places) to 3 forms of entry (90 places) from September 2009 onwards and would prefer to see the school continue as a two form of entry (60 places) school from September 2010.	
Alternative Option	
<u>Comments</u>	

Please provide the following details:

My child or children currently attend(s): _____

I am a parent of (a) pre-school child(ren)

Please tick (✓) if applicable.

I am a resident

Please tick (✓) if applicable.

Other (staff, governor etc)

Please tick (✓) if applicable.

Please state

Signed:

Name (in BLOCK CAPITALS):

Address:

Please return this response form by **Friday 13th February 2009** to:
Nicola Keynes, Senior Education Officer (Planning and Development),
Children and Young People's Services – Strategy, Quality and Improvement,
Borough of Poole, Civic Centre, Poole, BH15 2RU.
Tel: 01202 633691 Fax: 01202 633866 Email: n.keynes@poole.gov.uk