



19 December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Proposed New Build

Thank you again for attending the public information evening and for returning your completed feedback forms. We have now had the opportunity to look at all the comments made and thought it would be helpful to share our responses with you. We have grouped them into different areas to help answer your questions:

Has a brand new school in Corsham been considered?

Wiltshire Council approached Corsham Primary as we are the nearest school to most of the new housing developments and have the capacity to expand. Wiltshire Council does not have any available council owned land nearby that would be suitable to build a new school on and would be reluctant to build a 0.5 school (3/4 class school) due to long term funding issues.

Where does the funding for operating a larger school come from?

Funding for schools depends on the number of children who attend the school. As pupil numbers grow so will the funding. The infrastructure for the school is already established so extra staffing and running costs will be covered by the extra pupils.

Can more information be provided?

We have attached with this letter the Phase 1 and Phase 2 plans and will also upload them onto our school website. We also plan to regularly update you through our monthly newsletter.

Why is the build planned in two Phases?

Phase 1 meets the expected influx of children as a result of the planning permission currently granted for the number of new housing developments in the area. The money to build Phase 1 comes from the new housing developments as money has to be made available to fund local infrastructure upgrades such as school expansion. There is no timeframe for Phase 2 as yet, it has been planned in order to put the council and the school in a good position to proceed if and when required.

Pound Pill

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What happens if even more houses are built and the expansion cannot cater for all the additional houses?

This is why there is a planned Phase 2 to expand the school to a two-form entry school. This would be put in place in case additional houses receive planning permission or the MOD presence increases in the area in the future. Phase 1 covers the anticipated increase in pupil numbers from the housing developments that already have planning permission.

How will the Health and Safety of pupils be maintained during construction time?

Wiltshire Council have provided a Project Manager, Mrs Suzanne Gough, who will work closely with the constructors and school to ensure that all Health and Safety and Safeguarding logistics and concerns are addressed. We will communicate these with you but below are some things that we have already considered:

- Contractor delivery times will be restricted. It will be in their contract that no deliveries will be made during drop off and pick up times.
- All contractors entering the school will be DBS checked.
- Part of the tender process will be asking contractors to comment on health and safety and safeguarding procedures and these will be evaluated as part of the appointment process.
- The contractors will have a dedicated access to their site area and contractor compound which will be secure in order to ensure children are kept separate from the site areas. There will also be a contractor parking area separate from the school car park.
- An alternative route for parents and children to access the school at drop off and pick up times will be made available and communicated with everyone before construction starts.
- In order to minimise disruption it is planned that internal works (reconfiguration of the hall and creation of the Early Years unit) will take place in the Summer of 2018. This will ensure that internal works are not taking place at the same time as the external works.
- The contractors will be asked to let us know when they will be making loud noises so that teachers can plan suitable activities.
- During the construction period fire and ambulance services will be able to continue to access the site either through the main entrance or the Bradford Road gate. Phase 1 also includes creating a second emergency access from the Bradford Road.

What was the selection process for choosing the architect and final proposal?

Wiltshire Council tendered the project and the successful design team were appointed (DarntonB3) following the Council's procurement rules. The proposal has been developed with us and the architects and resulted in the designs attached.

How will the extension work with the existing ground levels?

A topographical survey has been carried out so that the design team fully understand the existing levels across the site. Phase 1 will extend along the same level as the existing Strawberries classroom. There will be some excavation required to make this level and it is hoped that some of the spoil will be redistributed across the site to create outdoor learning areas wherever possible. The current walkway/path around the outside of the building will be extended to incorporate the new build so a level footpath will be maintained around the Phase 1 works. It is intended that the Phase 2 extension would step up onto the higher level to make best use of the existing ground levels across the site.

Will there be enough parking and access to the school?

Wiltshire Council Highways team have been consulted on the extent of parking and access issues. A Transport Consultant has been appointed and a parking survey has been undertaken which will be part of the design and access statement to be submitted with the planning application. The number of parking spaces will be increased on site. Unfortunately this will necessitate the removal of the Rudloe Pre-school from the site. The Highways Department have been very clear that parking provision on the site must increase and the only area on site suitable for additional bays without reducing the amount of playing fields and the secure boundary of the school is the current location of the pre-school. We understand that the pre-school is looking for alternative locations in the area and are being supported by the Early Years team at the Council.

We have developed a Travel Plan to help encourage more sustainable travel to school. The planned housing development directly opposite the school will also be providing two laybys with twelve parking spaces along with a toucan crossing being installed as part of the housing development construction works. Our school gate on the Bradford Road will continue to be in operation to help alleviate pressure on the main entrance. We will also be requesting that the speed limit on the Bradford Road is reduced to 40mph as part of the planning application. We will continue to request that parent's park sensibly on and around the estate at peak times and be considerate of our neighbours.

Will there be split year groups?

The building of Phase 1 will result in us being able to grow from 1 form entry to a 1.5 form entry site. If Phase 2 goes ahead we would then have the capacity to grow to a 2 form entry site. The growth for both phases will take time and we do not know how many children will arrive, when they will arrive and how old they will be. It is therefore very difficult at this stage to give you clear plans regarding the make-up of year groups and classes. However, it is inevitable that there will be some split year groups during the period between Phases 1 and 2, but it could also mean smaller class sizes as we grow. When we first took over the leadership and management of Broadwood in 2007 there were about 90 pupils on role and we had to run split year group classes for a number of years so we are experienced with managing the curriculum in such situations. Teachers are already skilled at differentiating the learning to meet the wide ranging needs of children in their classes so will be able to meet the needs of mixed aged group classes. We will keep you informed of our deliberations and plans on class sizes and make up once we have more information and in a position to do so.

Will the school hall be expanded?

The school hall will be expanded if Phase 2 goes ahead. Currently Broadwood has about the same internal PE/community space as Pound Pill which is two form entry so there is no demand to expand the hall in Phase 1. There was a comment made that Pound Pill currently has more before and after school sport clubs than Broadwood. This is not due to the size of the school hall at Broadwood but because there are double the number of pupils at Pound Pill. Our sports co-ordinator works hard to ensure equity between the two sites. As pupil numbers grow at Broadwood we will expand the number of clubs available to pupils.

We hope the above information has answered the questions you raised with us. We are very excited about the possibility of having a purpose built Early Years unit and six brand new classrooms, along with other rooms being updated and refurbished such as the main school office and staff room. The school building was originally built in 1982, we work hard to maintain it to a high standard and plan to refurbish ourselves some of the existing classrooms so that they remain well kept and up to date.

The design team will be submitting the plans for the new build very shortly to the Planning Department and we have everything crossed that they will be well received. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions regarding the new build.

Yours faithfully



Gina Cooke
Senior Headteacher



Kerry Parker
Head of School