

# Consultation on the proposal to expand St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School, Oxford



**2nd May 2012 – 20th June 2012**

**Produced by the Governing Body of St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School  
and Oxfordshire County Council**

## About St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School

St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England school for children aged 4-11 in the Grandpont area of Oxford city. The total current number of children on roll (as at April 2012) is 299 as shown below:

Year Group	Reception (F1)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pupil Number	45	45	44	46	41	40	38

### Why are we consulting?

St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School's published admission number is 45. However, the school is very popular and has been oversubscribed for the last few years. For the September 2012 intake, the school has agreed to admit 60 children into Reception (F1) at the request of Oxfordshire County Council, in order to meet growth in demand for pupil places in Oxford. This arrangement relates only to the 2012 intake.

Demand for pupil places across Oxfordshire generally has risen and in recent years Oxford city has experienced a significant and sustained rise in primary pupil numbers. To meet this demand additional places have been created in other Oxford primary schools each year since 2008. Looking to the future, significant additional housing is included in Oxford City Council's Core Strategy, which will, in turn, lead to increased pupil numbers across Oxford. The proposal to expand St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School acknowledges that the community the school serves has grown, and that several other primary schools in the city have expanded recently due to this growth being sustained.

The proposal is to expand St Ebbe's CE (A) Primary School to become a 2 form entry school with an Admission Number of 60 on a permanent basis. This would bring the number of children on roll at the school up to a maximum of 420 children.

**We think that this is a popular school at the heart of its community, which should expand to meet local demand. We want to know your views about whether you are happy to see the school grow.**

### What we want to do

We are planning to increase the school admission number from 45 to 60 on a permanent basis. Because the formal admission number for 2013 has already been published, the school's admission number can only now formally change from September 2014. The school's 2013-2014 policy does state, however, that it may consider admitting up to 60 children in September 2013, to help meet demand.

If the school admits 60 pupils into Reception (F1) each year, they would be taught in two classes of 30 pupils. Gradually the 60 pupil year groups will progress through the school, so that seven years on, all year groups could potentially have 60 pupils.

If it is decided to permanently change the admission number to 60, there will be a need for more classrooms to be built. A detailed feasibility study has begun, which looks carefully at the school's site and buildings to see how these additional classrooms and supporting spaces could best be provided.

## Your views

Because of the increase in the proposed size of the school we need to make sure that the proposal is supported locally. This is a two stage process:

### Stage One:

Public consultation with parents, local schools and others about a permanent change to the admission number to 60. That will take place until 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012. You have until that date to respond (see details below).

This consultation is to help inform the plans. The decision whether to proceed to Stage Two rests with the governing body of the school. If, as a result of the consultation, the governors want to go ahead with the expansion, Stage Two will follow.

### Stage Two:

The governors will publish a *public notice* in the local paper and at the school. There will then be a *statutory notice period* of 4 weeks, during which you can send any formal objections or comments to the proposal to the County Council. These will be considered by the County Council Cabinet before making a final decision. If you wish to object to the expansion, you must do so during the statutory notice period even if you have already responded to the consultation during Stage One. We currently expect the statutory notice period to be in September / October 2012.

The County Council Cabinet (if there have been objections) or the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement (if there are no objections) will then make the final decision on this permanent change, and this is currently planned to be in November / December 2012.

## How you can respond to this consultation

The information necessary for an informed response is contained in this consultation document, which is also available online at: <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>

You can respond in one of four ways:

- complete the response form at the back of this document and send it to the address shown on the response form
- respond online at : <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>
- write a letter and send it to the address shown on the response form
- email your response to:  
**StEbbes2012-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk**

Parents are asked to complete only one form, even if you have more than one child at the school. Please return your form as soon as possible, but by **20<sup>th</sup> June 2012** at the latest.

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I/we wish to make the following comments:

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Signature .....

Name .....

Address (optional) .....

- Parent of a child at St Ebbe’s CE (A) Primary School
- Parent of a child at another school
- Parent of a child not yet at school
- Governor/staff at St Ebbe’s CE (A) Primary School
- Local resident
- Other (specify) .....

*Tick all that apply*

**Please return by 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to:**

**School Organisation and Planning**

**FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

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