



Consultation on the proposal to expand Hook Norton CE Primary School

6 October 2014 – 3 November 2014

**Informal drop-in sessions with county council and school staff on
Wednesday 15 October 2.30-4.30pm and 6.30-7.30pm
at the school**

Hook Norton CE Primary School is a community school in Hook Norton village in Cherwell District, and is a member of the Chipping Norton partnership of schools. The school has an admission number of 30 and operates as a 1 form entry primary school.

The total number of children on roll at the time of writing is 217 (including the Nursery children) as shown below:

Year Group	Nursery	Reception	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pupil Number	15	25	30	29	30	29	28	31

The school was inspected by Ofsted on 16 April 2013 and was graded Good.

What is being proposed?

The county council proposes to expand Hook Norton CE Primary School to enable it to admit 45 pupils each academic year, rather than the current 30 pupils. The expansion would begin in September 2015, and is supported by the school's Governing Body.

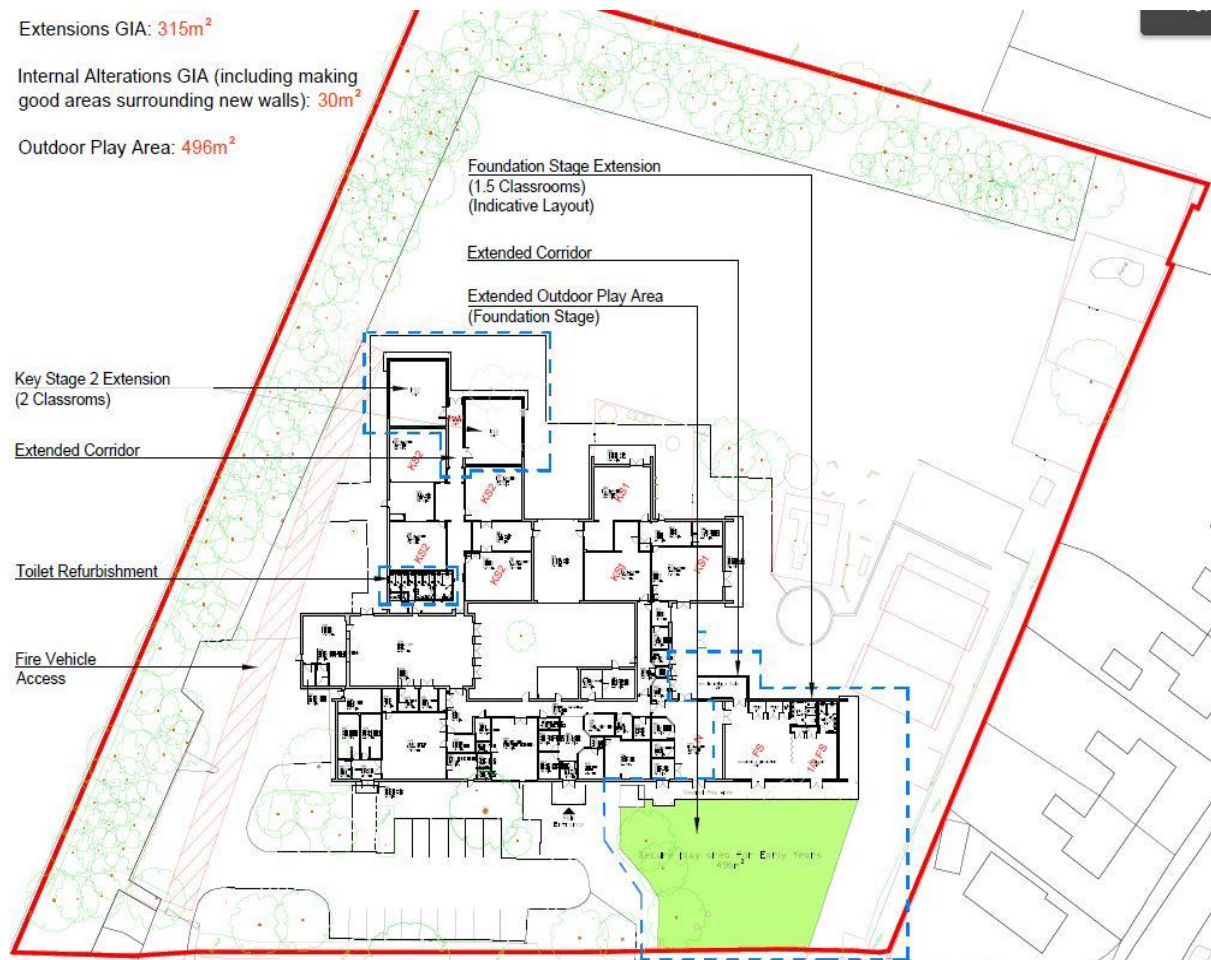
Until now, in most years the school's current admission number has been enough to admit all catchment children. Births data indicates that this may not be the case in all future years, unless the school expands. In addition, there has been housing development permitted in the school's catchment area, and the district council's Local Plan indicates that more housing may be approved for Hook Norton. The school's current admission number of 30 will not provide sufficient places for Hook Norton's growing population.

The county council's policy is, where possible, to expand primary schools by multiples of 15 or 30 (i.e. half or a full form of entry) at a time. This is to help schools organise more easily their classes across the year groups. There are many schools across the county that operate

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with an admission number of 45 as standard. This does not mean that there are 45 pupils in a class; class sizes remain the same, but more classes are run and some are mixed year group classes (e.g. a class of 30 might be run with 15 pupils in Year 1, and 15 pupils in Year 2). The exact organisation of the classes would be managed by the school.

A feasibility study is in progress to identify how Hook Norton CE Primary School could grow in a manner which is cost-effective without compromising the high quality of education provided by this school. A draft expansion plan has been produced, in agreement with the school. While this is not the final scheme, it may be useful to give an idea of how the expansion might be achieved on site:



We think that this is a good school which can and should expand to meet demand for places from a growing population. We want to know your views about the proposal to expand.

Important points

- The Governing Body of the school have made the following statement:

“The governors of the school support the expansion as we believe that children who live locally should be able to go to their local school; it is important for the village infrastructure to maintain Hook Norton as an inclusive, vibrant village that is a perfect place for families. Developing the school is an exciting project which will allow us to meet the needs of our children, giving us more flexibility in terms of pupil groupings and the opportunity to offer our high standard of education to more children.”

- This consultation is about **the principle of expanding Hook Norton CE Primary School**. It is **not** about any decisions to allocate housing development to the area made by Cherwell District Council. Comments on housing development proposals need to be made to Cherwell District Council.
- This consultation is taking place until **3 November 2014**. You have until midnight on that date to respond to us. All responses received will then be considered.
- The next step, if the process continues, would be the publication of a statutory notice in the local paper, on the county council website and at the school. There would then be a statutory notice period of 4 weeks, giving a last opportunity for people to respond formally. The final decision would be made by the county council Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Families.

How you can respond to this consultation

This information is available online at the county council’s website in the consultations section: <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>. There are several ways to respond:

- respond using the online form for this consultation, on the Oxfordshire County Council current consultations webpage at <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>;
- email your response to: diane.cameron@oxfordshire.gov.uk putting HOOK NORTON EXPANSION in the subject line;
- write to Diane Cameron, School Organisation & Planning, County Hall, FREEPOST Oxfordshire County Council, or send in the Response Form at the back of this leaflet.

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**Consultation on the proposal for the expansion of
Hook Norton CE Primary School**

I/we wish to make the following comments:

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Name

Address or email address (optional)

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- Parent of a child at Hook Norton CE Primary School
- Parent of a child at another school (please specify).....
- Parent of a child not yet at school
- Governor/staff at Hook Norton CE Primary School
- Local resident
- Other (specify)

Tick all that apply

Please return by 3 November 2014 to:

Diane Cameron

School Organisation and Planning

Ground Floor

FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(No stamp required)

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