

# Consultation on a proposal to expand Launton CE Primary School

**14 September 2016 – 12 October 2016**

Launton Church of England Primary School is located in the village of Launton, just outside Bicester in Cherwell District. The school is part of the Bicester area partnership of schools and currently has a Published Admission Number of 20 (i.e. the school admits up to 20 children each year in to the Reception class). The school was last inspected by Ofsted on 12 September 2013 and was graded Good.

The total number of children on roll at the start of September 2016 academic year was 148 (including the Nursery children) as shown below:

Year Group:	Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Number of Pupils:	Proposed 6	24	31	23	16	18	18	18

## What is being proposed?

### Expansion

The Governing Body of the school, working with Oxfordshire County Council, propose to increase the school's Published Admission Number (PAN) in September 2017 from 20 to 30 on a permanent basis from September 2017.

This means that each year group that starts at the school from September 2017 onward would consist of up to 30 places, making a maximum total of 210 pupils in Reception to Year 6 across the whole school eventually.

The school's total numbers would grow gradually each year as 30 children are admitted into the Reception class, allowing the school to adjust to the larger size. However, should housing development lead to large numbers of older primary children moving into the village and needing school places, the school will review whether it is able to expand the older year groups as well.

It is not anticipated that there would be any change to the number of early years places offered on site.

### **Class organisation**

Where possible, county council policy is to organise and expand primary schools in multiples of 15 or 30 per year group (i.e. half or a full form of entry) at a time. This helps schools organise more easily their classes across the year groups. An advantage of this proposal to increase the Admission Number from 20 to 30 is that the children would be admitted in a full form of 30 and would stay in that single age class as they progressed up through the school.

There are many schools across the county that operate with an admission number of 30 as standard. The exact organisation of the classes would be managed by the school.

### **Reasons for proposal**

Launton CE Primary School wants to be able to meet the needs of the local community. There has been an increase in demand for primary school places in Launton and the school has in past years decided to admit above its formal Admission Number; most notably in September 2015 when 30 children were admitted. The school is full in most year groups.

The most nearby primary schools are also operating close to their full capacity: Langford Village Primary School is full in most year groups, Longfields Primary School is expanding to meet demand, and Glory Farm Primary School has very few spare places.

There is housing development permitted within Launton CE Primary School's designated (catchment) area, in addition to some that has already been constructed and occupied. This will further increase the demand for primary school places over the next few years.

To meet the needs of the growing population in Launton and the surrounding area, an expansion in primary school capacity is now required.

If Launton CE Primary School expands to 1 form entry (PAN 30) it will have sufficient places to meet the scale of population growth expected within its designated area.

### **Buildings**

To accommodate the extra children, the county council is planning to provide new classroom accommodation and associated areas.

It is expected that the cost of extending the school will be met from money the county council has secured from developers building houses in the local area. It may also require contributions from any future developments not yet applied for.

A feasibility study, managed by the county council, will identify how the school could grow in a manner which is cost-effective without compromising the high quality of education provided. One indicative way of expanding the school is shown in the plan below but it should be noted that this is not a final scheme or as yet an agreed way forward:



## 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>. We would like to hear from you if you support this proposal as well as if you have any concerns. There are several ways you can submit your views:

- respond online at the above web address using the online form for this consultation, on the Oxfordshire County Council current consultations webpage
- email your response to: [diane.cameron@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:diane.cameron@oxfordshire.gov.uk) putting **LAUNTON EXPANSION** in the subject line;
- hand in your response at Launton CE Primary School's office, to be passed on to the county council.

**You must respond by 12 October 2016**