

Consultation on the proposal for the expansion of Madley Brook Community Primary School, Witney

27 March 2009 – 22 May 2009

**Produced by Oxfordshire County Council and the Governors of
Madley Brook Community Primary School**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Why are we consulting?

Madley Brook Community Primary School opened in 2003 as a new school with nursery facilities to serve a housing development to the north-east of Witney. It shares its site with Springfield Special School for children with complex learning difficulties.

The school has:

- nine classrooms for primary age mainstream pupils
- seven classrooms for primary aged pupils with severe learning difficulties (some with profound and multiple learning difficulties)
- one nursery for nursery aged pupils including pupils with severe learning difficulties
- one nursery for nursery aged pupils with severe learning difficulties and profound and multiple learning difficulties.

The school was built with two more classrooms than needed for a one-form-entry school, to allow for expected growth in pupil numbers from the new houses. The building was also designed to allow it to be extended in the future.

The current number of children in each year group (January 2009 pupil census) is shown below:

N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
47	31	29	30	30	30	24	29

N = Nursery, R = Reception. Together they make the Foundation Stage.

A number of these places will be part time.

Until now the school has planned to admit 30 children each year. For September 2009, 49 parents chose the school as their first choice.

Primary Care Trust records and the annual census of local children in private, voluntary and independent early years settings show that the demand for 45 places per year is likely to continue.

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

What we want to do

We are planning to increase the school admission number from 30 to 45. This means that each year group will consist of up to 45 places. It will also mean that some class groups will be mixed age, for example, some Year 1 children and some Year 2 children, although this will not affect children already in F1 or above.

This increased admission number will allow more parents in Witney to get their first choice of primary school for their children.

To accommodate this growth in pupil numbers, we will need to build two more classrooms and other spaces by September 2012. Until then the school will have enough room, although there will be some alterations to allow two reception classes and an appropriate external area from September 2009.

Your views

Because of the large increase in the proposed size of the school we need to make sure that the proposal is supported locally.

This consultation with parents, local schools and others will take place until Friday 22 May 2009. You have until that date to respond (see details below).

If as a result of the consultation the county council wants to go ahead, we will publish a public notice in a local newspaper and at the school. This would be the final opportunity for people to comment on the proposal. The County Council Cabinet or the Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement, Councillor Michael Waine, will then make the final decision in November 2009.

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: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation

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
- write a letter and send it to the address shown on the response form
- email your response to the email address shown on the response form
- use the electronic response form at the end of the online version of this consultation document.

Parents are asked to complete only one form, even if you have more than one child at the school. Return your form as soon as possible, but by Friday 22 May 2009 at the latest.

We have also arranged informal drop-in sessions at the school, so that you can ask questions of the school's headteacher and county council staff about this proposal. These meetings are for parents and other members of the Madley Park community and are as follows:

Venue	Date and time
Madley Brook Primary School	Thursday 2 April, 8.30am - 9.15am
Madley Brook Primary School	Wednesday 13 May, 3.00pm – 3.45pm

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I/we wish to make the following comments:

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Signature

Name

☐ Parent ☐ Governor ☐ Local resident ☐ Other (specify)

Tick all that apply

Please return to:

**Oxfordshire County Council
Barbara Chillman, Principal Officer (School Organisation)
Children, Young People and Families
FREEPOST NATW684
Oxford OX1 1BR**

propertyassets@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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