Cabinet - 25 October 2017

Proposed expansion of Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church CE Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019

Portfolio: Councillor Nawaz, Children's services and eduction

Service: Children's Services

Wards: All

Key decision: Yes

Forward plan: Yes

1. Summary

- 1.1 It is proposed to significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019 in order to meet increasing demand for primary places in the Primary Planning Areas 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9. Following an initial information consultation with the schools, the statutory four week formal consultation (the Representation period) commenced on Monday 11 September 2017 with the publication of the complete proposal and the statutory notice. The consultation closed at 17:00 on Monday 9 October 2017. This report provides details of the outcome of the formal consultation.
- 1.2 The formal consultation has now been extended and will close on Monday 23 October 2017. The outcome of the consultation responses, **Appendix D and E**, will be sent to cabinet members for consideration prior to making a decision.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet approve the proposal to significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019.
- 2.2 That Cabinet approve the schemes and budgets set out in this report for school alteration works significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019.

- 2.3 That Cabinet approves the procurement of school alteration works to significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019 (such procurement exercises to be made in conjunction with Integrated Facilities Management).
- 2.4 That Cabinet delegates to the Executive Director for Children's Services, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder ,authority to award contracts for the provision of school alteration works to significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019 and to enter into contracts, by using the most appropriate procedures and to subsequently authorise the sealing or signing of any deeds, contracts or other related documents.

3. Report Details

- 3.1 Walsall Council, acting in its capacity as Local Authority, has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available in the local area. Each year the Council uses birth data, information about planned housing developments and cross border migration to project the number of school places that will be needed in the future. In order to ensure that additional places are made available in the areas where they will be needed the Council organises its primary schools into 11 Primary Planning Areas, (see **Appendix A**) In order to meet an increasing demand for primary school places across the borough it is proposed to significantly expand six primary schools from 1 September 2019. **Appendix B** details the amount of places in the planning area and the projected figures showing therefore the shortfall of places.
- 3.2 It is proposed to significantly expand Old Church Primary School (Primary Planning Area 1) from 1 September 2019, increasing the number of places in the Reception year group from 45 to 60. The school is currently 1.5 FE (forms of entry) and it would become 2FE. This would create 15 additional places in Primary Planning Area 1.

Currently the school admits up to 45 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 315 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 52 part-time places in the nursery class, 26 morning and 26 afternoons. The school is a voluntary controlled school. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the admission number of 60 applies to all year groups.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed the Local Authority is proposing to admit up to 15 children above the published admission number in September 2018, taking the number expected to be admitted to Reception in September 2018 to 60.

3.3 It is proposed to significantly expand Salisbury Primary School (Primary Planning Area 1) from 1 September 2019, increasing the number of places in the Reception year group from 45 to 60. The school is currently 1.5FE and it would become 2FE. This would create 15 additional places in Primary Planning Area 1.

Currently the school admits up to 45 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 315 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 48 part-time places in the nursery class, 25 in the morning and 23 in the afternoon. The school is a Walsall community school. It is proposed that the admission number is increased from 1 September 2019 when up to 60 children would be admitted to Reception. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the admission number of 60 applies to all year groups.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed the Local Authority is proposing to admit up to 15 children above the published admission number in September 2018, taking the number expected to be admitted to reception in September 2018 to 60.

3.4 It is proposed to significantly expand the schools in the Short Heath Federation (Primary Planning Area 2), Rosedale CE Infant School and Short Heath Junior School, from 1 September 2019, increasing the number of places in the Reception year group at Rosedale CE Infant School from 60 to 90. Currently the school admits up to 60 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 420 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 117 part-time places in the nursery class, 65 in the morning and 52 in the afternoon. The school is a voluntary controlled school. It is proposed that the admission number is increased from 1 September 2019 when up to 90 children would be admitted to Reception. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the admission number of 90 applies to all year groups. The school is currently 2FE and it would become 3FE. This would create 30 additional places in Primary Planning Area 2.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed the local authority is proposing to admit up to 30 children above the published admission number in September 2018 and would therefore offer places to 30 additional children in the 2018 primary admission round, taking the number expected to be admitted to Reception in September 2018 to 90.

3.5 It is proposed to significantly expand Manor Primary School (Primary Planning Area 7) from 1 September 2019, increasing the number of places in the Reception year group from 45 to 60. The school is currently 1.5FE and it would become 2FE. This would create 15 additional places in Primary Planning Area 7.

Currently the school admits up to 45 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 315 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 26 part-time places in the nursery class in the morning. The school is a foundation school. It is proposed that the admission number is increased from 1 September 2019 when up to 60 children would be admitted the Reception The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually until the admission number of 60 applies to all year groups.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed it is proposed that the governing body will admit up to 15 children above the

published admission number in September 2018, taking the number expected to be admitted to Reception in September 2018 to 60.

3.6 It is proposed to increase the number of places in the Reception year group at Leighswood School (Primary Planning Area 8) from 75 to 90 from 1 September 2019. The school is currently 1.75FE and it would become 2FE. This would create 15 additional places in Primary Planning Area 8.

Currently the school admits up to 75 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 525 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 78 part-time places in the nursery class, 39 in the morning and 39 in the afternoon. The school is a Walsall community school. It is proposed that the admission number is increased from 1 September 2019 when up to 60 children would be admitted the Reception. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually until the admission number of 90 applies to all year groups.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed the Local Authority is proposing to admit up to 15 children above the published admission number in September 2018, taking the number expected to be admitted to Reception in September 2018 to 90.

3.7 It is proposed to increase the number of places in the Reception year group at St Michael's CE Primary School (Primary Planning Area 9) from 45 to 60 from 1 September 2019. The school is currently 1.5FE and it would become 2FE. This would create 15 additional places in Primary Planning Area 9. Currently the school admits up to 45 pupils into Reception each year and has places for a total of 315 pupils (excluding the nursery class). In addition, there are 52 part-time places in the nursery class, 26 in the morning and 26 in the afternoon. The school is a voluntary controlled school. It is proposed that the admission number is increased from 1 September 2019 when up to 60 children would be admitted the Reception and up to 15 of the 60 places could be offered as Church places to regular worshippers. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually until the admission number of 60 applies to all year groups.

If the proposal to expand the school from 1 September 2019 is agreed the Local Authority is proposing to admit up to 15 children above the published admission number in September 2018, taking the number expected to be admitted to Reception in September 2018 to 60.

3.8 The table below shows the actual and projected pupil numbers for Primary Planning Areas 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9. This data includes the total number of places currently available in Reception, the actual number on roll at the time of May 2017 census and the projected pupil numbers for the next three years.

Planning Area	Total places available in Reception	Actual number on roll at the time of the May 2017 Census	2018/19 Projected Reception admissions	2019/20 Projected Reception admissions	2020/21 Projected Reception admissions	2021/22 Projected Reception admissions
Planning Area 1	472	476	473	488	491	500
Planning Area 2	495	495	449	493	455	458
Planning Area 7	375	370	337	384	391	398
Planning Area 8	195	195	214	155	218	220
Planning Area 9	285	284	284	293	292	297

- 3.9 Informal consultation on the proposed expansions took place with the schools during the Spring Term 2017. Letters were sent to all the parents of children currently attending all six schools and to the student council members, staff and governors of all the schools informing them of the proposal and the arrangements for the formal consultation and dates of the consultation meetings. Ward councillors for each ward affected by the proposal were notified in July 2017 of the arrangements for the consultation.
- 3.10 The complete proposal and statutory notice were published on Monday 11 September 2017 (**Appendix F**).
- 3.11 A period of formal consultation (the Representation Period) commenced on Monday 11 September 2017 and the consultation closed at 17:00 on Monday 9 October 2017. The complete proposal was published on the Walsall Council website and the Walsall Link website and copies of the statutory notice were displayed at all entrances to each of the six schools throughout the consultation period. A copy of the public notice was published in the Express and Star on Monday 11 September 2017. Letters were sent to the parents of children currently attending all six schools, members of the student councils, staff and governors on Monday 11 September 2017 informing them of the consultation arrangements, dates of the consultation meetings and providing information on how to access the complete proposal and the consultation response form. Details of how to access the complete proposal were also sent to head teachers of all Walsall schools, neighbouring local authorities and diocesan representatives.
- 3.12 Consultation meetings were held with parents, student council members, school staff and governors at each of the six schools during the consultation period and copies of the minutes of each meeting are included in **Appendix C.**

4. Council Priorities

- 4.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to assess the local need for primary and secondary school places and to ensure that sufficient places are available for children and young people in the area. Despite an increasingly diverse range of school governance arrangements this remains a local authority responsibility and local authorities are tasked with having transparent and robust processes in place to forecast pupil numbers and ensure that there will be sufficient school places in the right areas to meet these forecasts.
- 4.2 The proposal supports the Council's corporate priorities, which are:
 - Pursue inclusive economic growth:
 - Make a positive difference to the lives of Walsall people;
 - Children are safe from harm, happy and learning well with self-belief, aspiration and support to be their best;
 - Safe, resilient and prospering communities.

5. Risk Management

5.1 The provision of additional places at Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Foundation, and St Michael's CE Primary School from 1 September 2019 will enable the Council to meet its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet the increasing demand for primary places in the area and will create a greater opportunity for children in Primary Planning Areas 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9 to attend a local school.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Existing St Giles CE (C) Primary School Expansion: Cabinet on 3 February 2016 approved the recommended expansion to St Giles CE Primary School at an estimated value of £900k including works, fees and development costs. As detailed in the report, The original scheme was to be modular build, this changed due to planning and conservation requirements to traditional build, mine shafts were discovered during ground investigation requiring capping and following a drainage survey a pumping station is required, the estimated costs for St Giles has increased by a further £600k the majority of which is expected to be incurred during the remainder of 2017/18 with approximately 20% in 2018/19.
- 6.2 New Proposed Primary Expansions (six in total): The proposed expansions involve extensions, alterations, remodelling or new buildings at the school sites and initial estimated costs outlined in the table below are for capital works (and related fees).

Proposed expansion	Number of additional places created	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	20% Contingency	Total Cost
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Existing Expansion							
St Giles – additional		600,000	0	0	0	0	600,000
New Expansions							
Leighswood School	15	66,610	471,033	67,521	0	121,033	726,197
Manor Primary School	15	27,170	653,214	177,204	0	171,518	1,029,106
Old Church Primary School	15	30,280	754,799	222,251	0	201,466	1,208,796
Salisbury Primary School	15	93,465	1,118,860	646,167	0	371,698	2,230,190
Short Heath Foundation	30	283,874	1,467,928	560,090	0	462,378	2,774,271
St Michaels CE Primary School	15	33,884	556,743	116,607	0	141,447	848,681
	105	1,135,283	5,022,577	1,789,841	0	1,469,540	9,417,241

6.3 The total estimated build cost for the new proposed expansions along with the increased costs attributed to St Giles, is a total cost of circa £9.418m, to be

funded from the Basic Need Capital Fund. This capital grant is allocated by the Department for Education to local authorities, based on pupil place number forecasts, to deliver the additional places in schools to meet expected demand. In terms of net capital funding available, there is approximately £6.6m of Basic Need funding currently available and uncommitted and a further £21.6m to be allocated in 2018/19 via the DfE.

- 6.4 As part of the feasibility works being undertaken, a profile of the estimate build costs and timescales has been undertaken to ensure each stage of the build can be appropriately funded. As per the above table, costs of £1.135m are anticipated during 2017/18, which remains within the current uncommitted 2017/18 balance and is therefore deemed affordable. The majority of costs are profiled to be incurred during 2018/19, where the current allocation of £21.6m has been confirmed via the DfE.
- 6.5 Historically there have been significant risks associated with increased costs for existing school enlargement. It is therefore prudent to ensure the full Basic need allocation available is not fully committed in order to ensure an appropriate level of contingency remains. The contingency level is currently set at 20% using the estimated costs as a basis and will be monitored as each scheme progresses. There is therefore £1.470m set aside as a contingency for these proposed expansions. If the estimated costs do not increase further, a level of Basic Need Funding would remain uncommitted at the end of each project. This funding is ring fenced to school enlargement projects and would therefore be carried forward into future years until such time as additional places in schools are required (including Special School places and Pupil Referral Unit places).
- 6.6 The ongoing increase in revenue funding for the schools will be met from the Dedicated Schools Grant (CDSG), (whereby funding allocated to the Authority to support mainstream schools increases or decreases in line with overall pupil numbers, therefore if there is a growth in overall pupil numbers this will attract more DSG funding which will then fund the additional places that are being created).
- 6.7 Each of the six primary schools will be asked to contribute towards the scheme with funding from their Devolved Formula Capital (DFC). This funding is allocated by the Department for Education to Local Authorities and is passported directly to schools on an annual basis to contribute towards school capital schemes.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The statutory process for expanding a maintained school is set out in the School Organisation (Prescribed Alternations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 which came into force in January 2014.

8. Property Implications

8.1 The proposed expansions will involve extensions, alterations, remodelling or new buildings on four school sites.

9. Staffing Implications

9.1 Additional teaching and support staff will be recruited to provide for the additional children to be admitted to each school.

10. Equality implications

10.1 It is of crucial importance to the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives that the young people of Walsall are able to access the right provision to meet their needs in order to achieve appropriate qualifications, progressing to employment and/or training and make a positive contribution within the borough in the future.

11. Consultation

11.1 Initial discussions were held with the head teachers of all six schools proposed for enlargement before the publication of the complete proposal and the statutory notice on the Walsall Council website on Monday 11 September 2017. A period of statutory formal consultation (Representation Period) was held from 11 September 2017 to 17:00 on 9 October 2017 in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations (2013).

Background papers

DfE: School Admissions Code 2014

DfE: School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England)

Regulations 2013

Dans

DfE: School Organisation Maintained Schools, Guidance for proposers and

decision makers, (January 2014)

Authors

Alex Haigh: School Organisation Manager – Admissions & Pupil Place Planning Team

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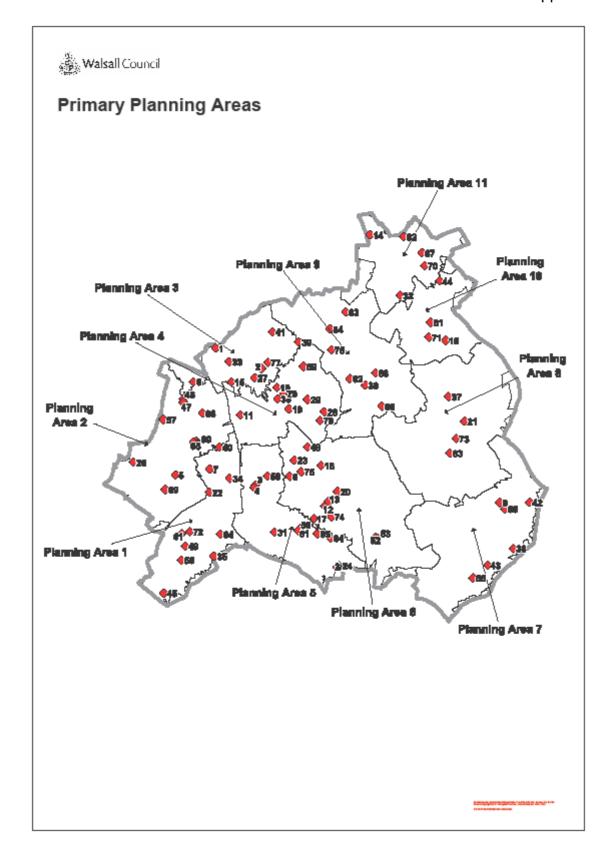
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Lynda Poole: Assistant Director - Access and Achievement

Signed:

Executive Director Portfolio Holder:

Date: 26 September 2017 Date: 17 October 2017





Primary Planning Areas



School Location Abbey Primary All Saints National Academy

Alumwell Infant

Alumwell Junior

Barcroft Primary

Beacon Primary

Bentley West Primary Birchills CE Community Academy

Blackwood

10 Blakenall Heath Junior

11 Bloxwich Academy

12 Blue Coat CE (A) Infant 13 Blue Coat CE (A) Junior

14 Brownhills West Primary

15 Busill Jones Primary 16 Butts Primary 17 Caldmore Village Primary

17 Cardinore village Primary
18 Castlefort JMI
19 Christ Church CE (C) JMI
20 Chuckery Primary
21 Cooper and Jordan CE VA Primary

22 County Bridge Primary

23 Croft Academy 24 Delves Infant & Nursery

25 Delves Junior

26 Edgar Stammers Primary Academy

27 Elmore Green Primary 28 Fibbersley Park Primary 29 Goldsmith Primary Academy

29 Gotsmin Frimary Acade
30 Greenfield Primary
31 Hillary Primary
32 Holy Trinity CE Primary
33 Jubilee Academy Mossley
34 King Charles Primary
35 King's Hill Primary

36 Leamore Primary

37 Leighswood 38 Lindens Primary 39 Little Bloxwich CE (VC) Primary

40 Lodge Farm Primary Academy

41 Lower Farm Primary

42 Manor Primary 43 Meadow View JMI

44 Millfield Primary 45 Moorcroft Wood Primary 48 New Invention Infant

47 New Invention Junior

48 North Walsall Academy 49 Old Church CE (C) Primary

50 Palfrey Infant

51 Palfrey Junior

52 Park Hall Infant Academy

53 Park Hall Junior Academy

54 Pelsall Village 55 Pheasey Park Farm Primary 56 Pinfold Street Primary

57 Pool Hayes Primary 58 Reedswood E-ACT Primary Academy

59 Rivers Primary Academy 60 Rosedale CE (C) Infant

61 Rough Hay Primary

62 Rushall Primary School

63 Ryders Hayes school 64 Salisbury Primary

65 Short Heath Junior

66 St Annes's Catholic Primary 67 St Bernadette's Catholic Primary

68 St Francis Catholic Primary

89 St Giles CE Primary
70 St James Primary
71 St John's CE Primary
72 St Joseph's Catholic Primary

73 St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary 74 St Mary's the Mount Catholic Primary

75 St Michael's CE (C) Primary

76 St Patrick's Catholic Primary

77 St Peter's Catholic Primary 78 St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary

79 Sunshine Infant and Nursery

80 The Radleys Primary

81 Walsall Wood 82 Watling Street Primary 83 Whetstone Field Primary

84 Whitehall Junior Community School

85 Whitehall Nursery and Infant 86 Woodlands Academy of Learning

Actual and projected pupil numbers for Primary Planning Areas 1, 2, 7, 8 and 9

Planning Area	Total places available in Reception	Actual number on roll at the time of the May 2017 Census	2018/19 Projected Reception admissions	2019/20 Projected Reception admissions	2020/21 Projected Reception admissions	2021/22 Projected Reception admissions
Planning Area 1	472	476	473	488	491	500
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Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	Salisbury Primary School
Meeting	School Council
with:	
Date:	Monday 18 September 2017
Time:	2.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Salisbury Primary School:
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Ms Deb Steene (Head Teacher)
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	18 Council members Reception - Year 6

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school council and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Salisbury Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1) Is our school one of the six schools to get bigger?

Alex explained the six schools proposed to being made bigger were Old Church, St Michael's, Manor Primary, Leighswood, Short Heath and then your school Salisbury. This is only a suggestion at the moment and not final, and we want to find out your thoughts on making the school bigger.

2) I agree the school should get bigger so more kids can join our school.

Alex explained family members, people moving into the area etc may be able to get a place if the school is made bigger if they can't at the moment.

3) Do we have to move classrooms?

Alex explained classes may change, and if the expansion is agreed builders will come and have a look at the school to see if any classes need to move.

This school is great because we have lots of different language and religions. Our children can speak a variety of languages like Romanian, Bengali and Finnish.

Location:	Salisbury Primary School
Meeting	Parents
with:	
Date:	Monday 18 September 2017
Time:	3.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Salisbury Primary School:
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Ms Deb Steene (Head Teacher)
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	9 parents

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the school organisation manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Salisbury Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1) If we are expanding the amount of kids, what about more teachers?

Alex explained the classes were mixed aged teaching, and the council would be putting in money in regards to buildings and looking at the class structures. Ultimately it is down to the head teacher how the school is staffed, and Walsall council would ensure funding is in place.

2) It's a long process building classrooms, and making changes to the school, would there be more kids coming before this is complete?

Building work would be completed as soon as possible to meet the demand before increasing the children's numbers into the school. Alex explained it

would be minimal impact on the school; children and teaching as building work would be done in the half term holidays. It is the intension that any building work is completed by September 2018.

3) We are concerned about parking on Station Street, as there is not enough space available.

Alex explained parking would be taken into consideration, could look at alternatives such as parking bays, drop off points, different entrances/exits etc. Alex suggested that parents completed a consultation form and submitted this so it could be forwarded to consultation. Parents expressed concern for the children's safety as there were lots of lorries manoeuvring in the street. Alex suggested highways could look and review this.

Deb Steene shared this was a fantastic opportunity for the school and it would be a phased rolling admission.

Parents shared this was a brighter future for the school and they want this to continue progressing. The school has produced excellent students and grades, and were in the top 10% of schools in England for maths.

Parents were advised they could comment on the proposal for Salisbury. Advised either the school or admissions could print off the form for parents to complete if they had any difficulties in accessing this paperwork.

Location:	Salisbury Primary School
Meeting with:	Staff
Date:	Monday 18 September 2017
Time:	4.00 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Salisbury Primary School:
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Ms Deb Steene – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	17 teaching staff

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Salisbury Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the staff that she had a brief power point presentation (see appendix 1) with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1) Will there be an influx of children?

PAN increases from September 2019 from 45 to 60, so it will be a rolling admission.

We can potentially go above PAN from September 2018 if all building work is complete, and both the school and admissions are in agreement with this

Location:	Salisbury Primary School
Meeting	Governors
with:	
Date:	Monday 18 September 2017
Time:	6.00pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Salisbury Primary School:
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Ms Deb Steene – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	2 School Governors

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Salisbury Primary School larger starting from September 2019. It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation (see appendix 1) with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1) Are the projected figures based on immigration?

Alex explained projections are based on birth rates, cross border immigration and immigration. Figures are 98% reliable, but obviously we have no control of people moving in and out of the area.

2) 2018 or 2019 proposed expansion?

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school has already been set, so these proposals are now being set for 2019, however with the intension to admit over number from September 2018.

3) How much money has been proposed for the expansion of Salisbury?

As there are no specific plans in place at the moment as the proposal has not been agreed this is difficult to be exact on however there are estimations around about £2 million mark.

4) With the 2 million, is there an overview of how this will be spent?

At the moment there are no definite plans. If the expansion is agreed, architects and planning will meet with the Head Teacher to see what plans they want to happen.

School governor stated she spoke to the parents after the meeting and they are all very positive about the proposed expansion and think it's a really great step for Salisbury.

Alex suggested that all consultees could complete response forms and submits them for the consultation. Deb suggested she would get the school council and governors to do the same thing. Both school governors wished to state they formally agree with the proposed expansion and would put this into an email.

The only real issue the parents have raised was the parking, which is a common problem for all schools. Alex again advised it would be taken into consideration and will go to highways and planning for them to look at, however the school cannot be moved and it is situated where it is and there are and always will be limitations and issues with parking etc...

Governors have stated the kids are so happy at Salisbury, and is a testament to the leadership and teaching. There are lots of positives happening here at this school, and the expansion will be another part of the journey if agreed. The governors stated its great the head teacher is out every morning and is available for parents to see and greet, making a real difference. The building improvements and expansion can only be a positive thing.

Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Meeting	School Council
with:	
Date:	Tuesday 19 September 2017
Time:	2.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation	Davina Clacy – Head Teacher
Manger	
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions	7 School council members

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school council and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Old Church CE Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Will there be enough playground space?

Ms Clacy advised her plans are to build a play structure. At the end of the football pitch she is proposing to the builders that they could maybe have some table tennis tables, and a large chess set. Davina also mentioned she would like maybe a canal boat or some tractors.

Ms Clacy stated that playtimes are split so there is plenty of space for playtime, and also suggested maybe the middle area of the school could be used at play times.

Alex did advise that children that although this is what Ms Clacy may want at the school the plans are not in place yet so we cannot give specifics around what will happen.

2. Where will the new classes be?

Alex advised that at the moment, it's all just ideas, and nothing is finalised. Ms Clacy will meet with the builders to decide these things if the expansion is agreed.

Ms Clacy advised that nursery and reception won't change, she is suggesting that one class room will be made bigger, the computer room can be used. All work will be done over the holidays so nobody will be disturbed.

3. Where will we be able to meet for assemblies?

Alex advised it depends on what plans there are to change things around, however the plan would be to make the school bigger not smaller.

4. Children comment that there is barely enough room now, so how will more children fit?

Ms Clacy advised the partition wall could be removed to make the hall bigger, and suggested split assemblies.

5. Children comment they would like more playground equipment.

Ms Clacy advised the expansion will bring more money and she will be able to provide more equipment for the playground.

6. Where will the new ICT room be?

Ms Clacy advised wasted space could be used to build a new extension to have a computer room and maybe use as a music room as well.

7. Will the school be closed whilst the building work is going on?

Alex advised that all building work would be done during half terms to cause as little disruption as possible to your learning where possible.

8. Will the bunny garden stay in the same place?

Alex advised the bunnies may have to move depending on the proposed building work, however they will remain safe wherever they are moved to.

9. Will we still have our quiet rooms?

Alex advised it depends on the proposed building work, but Ms Clacy will make sure the quiet areas remain, and that the changes are going to make the school better not worse.

10. Will the rough patch be used as an extra classroom?

Ms Clacy states that hopefully the rough patch will remain the same, but it depends on what the builders recommend.

11. The playground is too small now; with more children it will be too crowded when we are out playing.

Ms Clacy states that at present the lunch times are split anyway, so the playground never gets too full. They can also look at extending the playground with the new building work.

12. Will we have new cloakrooms and toilets?

Alex states that the school needs a certain amount of toilets by law, so if more are needed then more will be built. Ms Clacy advised that the existing ones can be upgraded so we won't need any new ones building.

13. When will key stage 2 get playground equipment they have been promised?

Ms Clacy states that if the extension is agreed she will have funds available to be able to provide this equipment.

14. Having a 2 form entry school, will we have new teachers and teaching assistants?

Alex states that Miss Clacy would need to look at this and see if new teachers are required as she is in charge of the teaching staff.

Ms Clacy asked the children how they felt about the changes.

The children advised the up sides to a bigger school was everything, and the downsides were that change can be scary.

Alex reassured the children that they don't need to worry and that change is a good thing. More money will be available, and more children will be able to come to the school that at the moment may not be able to get a place in the school. Change is positive and really exciting.

Alex suggested the school council get together and write a letter which can be taken to the meeting. Alex also asked the school council to return to their classes and share the news with their class mates.

Location:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Meeting	Parents
with:	
Date:	Tuesday 19 September 2017
Time:	3.20pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Davina Clacy – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	3 parents

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Old Church CE Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Where will the extra space be created?

Ms Clacy shared she had some ideas which included dropping nursery figures as it wasn't filled last year, which could then increase the reception figures which would mean no additional building work would need to take place for these classes. There is a room next to the hallway that is a spare classroom which can be used. The ICT room could be knocked through to make a bigger classroom, and could compensate with hand held devices and laptops.

Proposed build on the annex out the back to create a new room, which won't take up any playground space at all. There are options to build a music room outside. There is a grassy area that could be used for table tennis tables, chess sets etc. Children could play in the wood area, and split lunch times will help so the playground is not over crowded.

Alex reiterated that although these were the head teachers ideas nothing had yet being confirmed or agreed.

2. Will staffing be increased?

Alex advised infant class size cannot exceed 30 children to one class in reception, year 1 and year 2. If the expansion is agreed, there would be x2 classes of 30 and only go over as a permitted exception. The head teacher shared that separate classes would benefit the school as they could get rid of the mixed classes. The head teacher shared there would be opportunities for teaching assistants, and redundancies reduced due to increased need for staff with the additional children. It would secure the future for the children of Old Church.

3. If the expansion goes ahead, when would it be?

Alex informed the parents that the Published Admission number (PAN) for the school cannot be altered until September 2019, as the admission arrangements for September 2018 have already been set, with this in mind the school could however admit over the PAN for September 2018 allowing the increase to start from September 2018. The head advised she is happy to allow the increase from September 2018.

4. How do dinner times work?

In previous years the head teacher has split the lunch period allowing KS1 to eat before the KS2 years, this has worked well and the head feels adding some additional children to the school would not create further issues.

5. Are you confident this can work?

It was advised this would make a difference as the curriculum will be able to be delivered much better as there would be no mixed ages. The curriculum would flow better and have much more cohesion with the subjects being covered. Parents shared they think it's an excellent idea for the school, local authority and the children.

6. How will the building work be done?

Building work would be completed were possible outside of school hours and over the holiday periods.

Location:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Meeting	Staff
with:	
Date:	Tuesday 19 September 2017
Time:	4.00 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Davina Clacy – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	28 Staff Members

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Old Church CE Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the staff that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Are the expansion figures before or after the Kings Hill expansion?

After, as more school places are still required. Alex spoke about the projected figures and that they are 98% accurate. Alex advised that birth rates, cross border migration, new housing developments are taken into account when producing these figures. Also advised of the other five proposed schools for expansion and that it was not one or the other, that all were being proposed for expansion.

1. Is it your expectation that all six schools will be expanded?

Alex advised that yes this is the proposal and would be making the recommendation to Cabinet would be that all six go ahead.

2. If the school is going to increase, will parking be affected? Will there be on-site parking charges?

Alex advised as far as she was aware, the school maintains a very good relationship with the working men's club, and arrangements would remain the same. There are no proposals for any parking charges, however highways and planning are all included in the proposals.

3. Will the existing car park be tarmacked?

The head teacher advised this is something she would like to happen however nothing has been agreed yet.

4. Will the hall be made bigger?

It would be reviewed however currently the school staggers lunch times and this works well.

5. How would whole school assemblies work?

Assemblies would continue to be split as they currently are.

6. Where is the school's footprint heading with this extension?

This is something the Local Authority are keen to maintain and has strict guidelines on what and where items can be built. This expansion is about making the school even better not taking anything away from the children.

7. Will the natural lighting in my office be affected?

Natural lighting would be looked at by the architects and considered with any building work.

Alex reiterated that nothing has been finalised until agreed at cabinet and then meetings with planner's and architects. They will work closely with the head teacher to address all building issues. Budget will be in place to be able to complete all the work that is needed to expand the school.

8. What will happen with the ICT suite?

Nothing has been decided yet, at the moment these are all ideas that are being proposed, all ideas will be worked out with the building team/head teacher if the school expansion is agreed.

Location:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Meeting	Governors
with:	
Date:	Tuesday 19 September 2017

Time:	4.30 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Old Church CE (C) Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manger	Davina Clacy – head teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	2 School Governors

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Old Church CE Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Will all building work be completed by September 2018?

It is the local Authorities 'intention that all building work will be completed by then, where possible work will be completed whilst the children aren't in school to cause as little as disruption to the pupils and school as possible, however this may not always be possible.

2. Will there be additional staffing?

It would be the intention if the expansion is agreed the school would no longer run mixed year groups. This could result in propose pure classes of year 1's and year 2's. There would be funding available for more staff, which could potentially eliminate staffing redundancies.

3. Are there any downsides we should be aware of?

Alex advised that all school expansions she has been involved with have been positive. There have been a couple of issues that have occasionally came up have been unforeseeable circumstances such as newts/sparrows which have hindered the building work, however at present there are no known issues with this school.

Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	St Michael's Primary School- Head teacher Mrs Ros Hutchinson
Meeting with:	School Council
Date:	Wednesday 20 September 2017
Time:	2.45pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	St Michael's Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Lisa McDermot – School Council Support Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	13 school council members

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the children and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making St Michael's Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. If we had more children, how would we all have lunch and play times?

Alex asked if the school operated staggered lunch times, which the children advised they do. Alex suggested that it shouldn't have too much effect on the children, but would be something that the head teacher could look into if it became an issue.

2. Would there be more or less lessons?

Alex asked the children if the classes at the moment were mixed. The children advised that yes year 3 and 4 are mixed classes. Alex stated that what might happen is the school could have two year three classes and two year four classes, no mixed lessons. This would enable the children to focus on the same lesson subject and learning.

Comment- the children think it's a good idea, more friends and people to play with. It's better for children to be able to get a place, instead of having to travel far.

Location:	St Michael's Primary School
Meeting with:	Staff
Date:	Wednesday 20 September 2017
Time:	3.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	St Michael's Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Ros Hutchinson
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	24 teachers

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making St Michael's Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Could the school begin the increase from September 2018?

It is the intention to have any work completed so that the school could admit over the Published Admission number (PAN) from September 2018.

2. If we don't know where the building work is going to take place, how can we comment on it?

Alex advised the staff they could complete a consultation form to make the council aware how they feel about the proposed plans, and to make cabinet aware if they have any specific concerns.

3. Do cabinet make the decisions on designs if the expansions are agreed?

Alex advised that if cabinet give the go ahead on the expansion, planning and architects in consultation with the school make decisions on design. Cabinet

can put in stipulations if certain concerns have been raised during the consultation process.

4. Do the residents get notified if planning permissions is needed?

If planning permission is required then residents would be notified in the usual way.

5. Is parking considered with the expansion plans?

Planning will take all factors into account when consulting on the expansion project. Highways will also be involved to look into the impact of parking. Various options are available and can be explored.

6. If plans are proposed that staff/leadership are unhappy with, could these just go ahead anyway as we are governed by WMBC?

Alex advised she hasn't been involved with a school expansion that all parties haven't been happy with. All plans would be with the involvement of the staff so that everybody is happy with the proposals.

Location:	St Michael's Primary School
Meeting with:	Parents
Date:	Wednesday 20 September 2017
Time:	4.00pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	St Michael's Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Ros Hutchinson
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	13 parents

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making St Michael's Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Will the individual classes get larger, or will there be additional classes?

It is proposed that classes will go from mixed age teaching to two pure class's year 1 to year 6. There won't be any more than 30 children per class, unless as a permitted exception, and we would be proposing an additional classroom.

2. Extra classrooms will be needed, how does that work?

Options would be reviewed with members of Walsall Council IFM team and senior leadership at the school.

3. Are you confident the changes can be made without detriment to the school?

A team has already been out and looked into this to see if this is feasible. It has been deemed feasible that this school can be extended without detriment to the school.

4. Would the distance to admit go further?

Walsall does not operate a catchment area system; all admissions into a Walsall school are based on the school specific admissions criteria. St Michael's admission criteria are as follows:

Criterion 1: Children in Public Care.

Criterion 2: Pupils who have a sibling already in attendance.

Criterion 3: Relevant medical or social grounds.

Criterion 4: Church places (up to 11 places for 1.5 form entry and 15

places for 2 form entry).

Criterion 5: Distance

5. Regarding the extra classes, would that take away the ICT room?

No specific plans are in place as of yet, all proposals at the moment. Expansion is here to improve the school not to make it any worse or take away any rooms.

The head teacher addressed the parents to comment on why she believes the expansion would be a good idea. Due to budget cuts they may have to move back to mixed age teaching which is not what the school would want to do. The expansion would be great as it would stop this from happening and to help the school to progress further and also to reduce any potential redundancies.

6. Will the parking be looked at?

There are many things which would be looked into as part of an expansion and parking would be something, however Alex advised she would not promise that there is anything that necessarily could be done.

Location:	St Michael's Primary School
Meeting	Governors
with:	
Date:	Wednesday 20 September 2017
Time:	5.00 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	St Michael's Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Ros Hutchinson
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	7 Governors

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making St Michael's Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. If the cabinet makes the decision, why is Kim Robertson coming next week?

The Local Authority wants to get ideas/plans in place so we can achieve the September 2018 deadline for the building work.

2. Will the admission number for nursery be impacted?

Nursery places are not a statutory requirement and this would be up to the school to determine.

3. Will the Local Authority change its mind as to which is the best school?

Alex advised that the local authority believes this is the appropriate school to be expanded, however the final decision ultimately lies with Cabinet and will be decided on Wednesday 25 October 2017.

4. Will this affect the decisions if the school does not want something specific?

Cabinet will take all factors into consideration, if certain objectives or concerns are raised.

5. If it all goes ahead, can we all mutually agree?

Yes, it can be agreed by all parties.

6. Figures have been published; will this be the final figure?

No, although figures have been proposed, we will spend what is required to complete the build. We would be unable to provide a specific figure until all building work has been agreed and a plan of build, remodelling or expansion is in place.

7. Will the funding cover everything, ICT equipment, table, chairs etc.

The Basic need funding will accommodate the build and additional funding will come from the number of children on roll at the school, which subsequently can be used as the school see necessary.

Comment- we don't want to end up with financial commitments to re-stock rooms as the school has no budget for this.

8. Our concern is congestion, especially with the entrances/exits how will this work with a potential expansion?

Highways will be brought in to look at this. There are different options that can be considered and reviewed for the best solution.

9. We are an outstanding school, if we get the build wrong, will it affect this?

All building work will be planned and in consultation with the school head teacher so everyone would have to be happy with the building work. All plans to expand the school would be for the best interests of the school, not to make it worse.

10. Are we working with the diocese as we are a church school?

Yes all parties will be in consultation. The planning team and facilities will be met with so all ideas can be put across. It's important for school governors and senior leadership that all are involved in the planning process, which includes the diocese.

11. Will Christian places within the school be increased?

11 church places are available to be offered at 1.5 form entry school at a 2 form entry school 15 places are available.

12. Would the admission criteria be affected?

No would remain the same, only thing to change would be the increase in church places.

13. Are catchment areas still used?

Walsall schools do not operate catchment areas, pupils are admitted in admission criteria order, could potentially go further on distance due to the increase, but there is no formal catchment area.

Comments - The six proposed schools cover the expected increase in numbers of increased pupils in all planning areas. We are aiming to have between 3-5% surplus places.

The governors stated that the explanations given by Alex have reassured them and they feel better about the expansion. Their feelings are they are pro expansion but it needs to be right for the school.

Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	Manor Primary School- Head teacher Miss Karen Tomkins
Meeting with:	School Council
Date:	Thursday 21 September 2017
Time:	2.00pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Manor Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Karen Tomkins – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	12 children

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the children and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Manor Primary School larger starting from September 2019. It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

Comments: The expansion may be a bad idea it we don't get enough teachers. It's a good idea because more children mean more friends.

Alex suggested the council write a letter with their views that we could take along to cabinet.

Miss Tomkins asked the school council to think about how the school will change with more classes.

Location:	Manor Primary School
Meeting	Parents
with:	
Date:	Thursday 21 September 2017
Time:	2.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Manor Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Karen Tomkins – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	27 parents

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as admissions caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Manor Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

Karen briefed the parents first about Walsall's proposal. Karen spoke about class sizes increasing from a one and a half form entry to a two form entry. Karen spoke about the pros and cons of this, and that the expansion would mean more classes, not the size of the original classes. For example, instead of one year 5, it is proposed there would be two.

1. Would it be 2018 or 2019 that more children would get into the school?

Alex explained that the PAN for 2018 is already set at 45. The PAN officially changes from 2019 up to 60, however the Local Authority would

like to admit over the PAN for September 2018 and begin admitting 60 from then.

2. Are there plans how the expansion is going to be accommodated?

Alex advised planning teams had been out and had a look at the school, however nothing has been finalised or set, at the moment these are all just ideas being proposed. Until the expansion is given the go ahead by cabinet, nothing can be agreed.

3. Are local residents being acknowledged at this stage?

If future planning permission is required then the residents will be informed.

4. Can the residents then oppose?

Normally planning permission procedures would follow were residents could make comments to oppose if they deemed necessary.

5. Will there be a contingency plan put in place? Can we suggest we are happy with the school expansion; however have reservations about factors such as parking?

Alex suggested the parents complete a consultation form that is available on WMBC'S website to put across their views so this can be taken to cabinet for consideration.

6. If the expansion gets agreed, will we still have a voice afterwards to state our opinion?

All planning will be in consultation and you will still be able to be consulted, however I would suggest completing a consultation form and submitting to cabinet.

Head Teacher Comments

Ms Tomkins steps in to state if we don't go ahead with the expansion another school would be considered for expansion which could have a detrimental effect on our school and pupil figures. We need to consider all the pro's and con's to this expansion. One parent suggested using the community centre and maybe building a pathway so the parents could park up and walk the children into school.

Parents stated they want to make sure their concerns are listened to now and will be consulted on at every stage of the planning. They would rather voice their concerns now rather than later. Again parents advised to complete a comments form and submit for the panel to consider.

7. If in 2018, how many potentially can we go over?

Alex stated both the local authority and the head would need to be in agreement, we couldn't just put additional children into the school. Karen

advised it would have to work for the school, and the teaching structure would need to be in place to be able to accommodate this. If it doesn't work for the school, it wouldn't happen.

8. Two form entry, does this mean our class sizes will stay smaller?

It is proposed there will be two classes of 30 and only to go over as a permitted exception.

9. Will it impact on existing facilities such as libraries /ICT/hallway?

The head teacher advised if it was re-shuffled, the school would not lose any space, the proposal is to gain it and make the school bigger, nothing that will be to the detriment of our school. Alex reiterated that no plans were in place of how the new school would look or work.

10. If we are going to a 2 form entry, will we have to have a kitchen?

There are no definite plans at the moment, just proposals and ideas. There will be no definite plans until it has been agreed.

11. Will they be proper classrooms and not porter cabins placed on the fields?

All building work would be done in line with the standard of our school.

12. Isn't it best to tell the residents now, instead of facing the backlash in a month's time?

Residents will be informed if the expansion is formally agreed, and we would follow WMBC'S procedures.

13. Where is the money coming from?

Alex advised it comes from the local authorities basic need funding, not from the schools individual funds.

14.I'm not against the expansion; however I did choose this school over Blackwood because it's smaller. Would it not be an idea to review the catchment area for Blackwood school?

We place children based on an admissions criteria, we don't operate on catchment areas.

Comment- in regards to the local residents, it's up to us as parents to park responsibly and get our children to behave when arriving and leaving school.

Location:	Manor Primary School
Meeting with:	Staff
Date:	Thursday 21 September 2017
Time:	3.20pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Manor Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Karen Tomkins – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	19 teachers

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as admissions caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Manor Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the staff that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

Head Teacher wishes to add if Manor Primary is deemed not to be appropriate to expand, another school would be considered which could have a detrimental effect on the school.

1. How and where are we getting the space from?

Alex advised architects and builders would look at these issues, nothing has been decided yet as we are still at the planning stage and lots of options can be explored.

If agreed, builders will come back out and meet with the head and possibly the governors to create more definite plans. Everybody will be working together to make sure it's mutually beneficial for all.

2. If the builders have been and looked already, there must be potential for expansion?

Yes, things may have to be moved and re-shuffled; there will be no changes made that would be detrimental for the school, only to make the school better.

Comment- Parents have also been reassured this would not be to the detriment of the school. All additions will be to top standard that this school already is, if additional money is required, the head teacher is happy to use a portion of the school budget to ensure this happens.

Alex advised local authority money will be used as there are proposed budgets in place, and all building work will be completed in line with building standards

3. Will staffing be increased?

This is something that the head teacher would make a decision on in terms of staffing.

4. If the expansion didn't go ahead, would classes still increase?

Infant class size limits are still in place so key stage 1 could not go over number.

5. If we increase, and we don't get the children in would we still be financially viable?

If the expansion is agreed, and goes ahead it still doesn't necessarily mean that there will be a demand for these places, but as the local authority we have to ensure there is provision available for additional pupils based on expected pupil figures. It could potentially mean that the school has more space, but the places aren't taken up.

Location:	Manor Primary School
Meeting	Governors
with:	
Date:	Thursday 21 September 2017
Time:	4.00 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Manor Primary School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Karen Tomkins – Head Teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	4 governors

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Manor Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Why haven't other schools been chosen?

Alex advised there are various things we look at when planning school expansions, we have looked at schools that operate on a one and a half form entry to increase them to a two. We look at school Ofsted results, if the head teacher is in agreement, the need and want for the particular school and if it can be accommodated.

It is the intention of Walsall Council to raise all schools Ofsted levels to either good or outstanding. We like to build up schools that may be struggling so as to avoid sink holes schools.

2. How does Streetly admissions criteria affect our school?

Alex advised that Streetly are an academy so they set their own admission criteria, so we don't know how this will affect the school although we do not expect to it affect Manor Primary.

3. How sure are you you're going to have the funding for the build?

Basic need funding is guaranteed from the local authority and the budget has been set and placed aside for the school expansion scheme.

The school would experience more funding from the more pupils that went on roll there.

4. Will the appeals process remain the same if the school is full?

The appeals procedure wouldn't change, and the infant class size limit won't change.

Key stage 2 is not capped; the local authority is here to defend the school if the school is full.

5. Do we have to formally respond?

You do not have to respond; however you can get together and put your feelings on the expansion in a letter for this to be taken to cabinet.

6. Will local residents only be made aware if plans go ahead?

If planning permission is required, local residents will be informed via WMBC'S procedures.

7. Would parking be looked at?

Highways would be brought in to look at different options the school may have in regards to parking issues.

The head teacher advised it would also be an opportunity to suggest different ideas/suggestions under the expansion bracket.

8. With the additional 15 in each year group, does this warrant an extra teacher per the 15?

The head teacher advised that sixty children would finance an additional two teachers and she will look into staffing and how this is structured. There are plenty of options but nothing can be finalised until the expansion is agreed.

9. How would we get good teachers and retain them?

Alex advised this would be done through usual recruitment procedures.

Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	Leighswood School- Head teacher Mr Duncan Speirs
Meeting	School Council
with:	
Date:	Monday 25 September 2017
Time:	2.45pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Leighswood School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Deputy head teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions	14 school council members
Caseworker	
Nicholas Gill- Senior Caseworker	

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the children and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Leighswood Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:Children's comments-

Problems might be that our school becomes busier.

- We may have more distractions in our classes, so we might need more teachers.
- We might need a bigger first aid room if we have more children.
- Probably need more tables and chairs for the classes.
- We might need a bigger hall for lunch times, or we could sit outside in the summer time if it's warm.
- It's a good idea and we could get a gaming room.
- New children will need reminding of the school rules.
- Could make class rooms longer for more space.
- Alex suggested putting forward ideas into a letter so we can take this cabinet, to let the council know how the school feel about this proposed expansion.
- The children agreed they would like a bigger school, and one child commented the school may require a ramp so children with disabilities will be able to come to our school.

Location:	Leighswood School
Meeting	Parents
with:	
Date:	Monday 25 September 2017
Time:	3.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Leighswood School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Sarah Lenton- school business manager Deputy head teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	9 parents

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Leighswood Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. If we increase to 90, would adequate teaching be put in place?

Alex advised that increased pupils would mean increased funding which would pay for any additional teaching the school required. The Department of Education funds the building work, not affecting the schools budget.

2. Will there be less time for more child with more children in the school?

The head would structure how any teaching amendments would need to be made, for example teaching assistants etc. Infant class size legislation states there can be no more than thirty children per class.

3. Will there be extra funding for support staff, lunch time supervisors, clerical staff etc?

As stated, more children would secure additional funding, and it would be up to the head teacher how he structures this in regards to support staff.

4. Could cabinet agree the build, but then no additional funding for staff?

As stated, more children would secure additional funding. Everyone would need to be agreed so all parties are happy with the proposed expansion plans.

5. With increased children would bring more traffic/parking issues, how will this work?

Highways would also be involved at the planning stage to bring forward any suggestions/solutions they could find.

If planning permission was required, local residents would be informed.

6. Will this be before the expansion is agreed?

Not until definite plans are put into place no, as we would not be in a position to advise on things that haven't been finalised.

7. Will year 1 and year 2 entrances be looked at?

All options will be looked at in the consultation process and ides/suggestions proposed. Nothing specific has been worked out yet.

8. Why wasn't the parent meeting arranged for a different time of day so more people could make it, possibly 6.30pm?

Alex advised we have a four week consultation process where we have to fit in five other schools as well as Leighswood. Also what time would be convenient for one parent may not be convenient for others. Suggested informing as many parents as possible of today's meeting.

Alex also states all information has been made available for parents on the WMBC'S council website, school notice board; parents have the options to complete consultation paperwork and submit to cabinet also.

9. Would the catchment area be increased?

We don't operate on catchment areas, we admit children using an admission criteria.

10. What other schools have been looked at in Aldridge?

Every school was notified, and six have been proposed to be expanded, no other in Aldridge though.

11. Is this school in agreement with the proposed expansion?

Yes, Mr Spiers is in agreement with the proposed expansion.

Comment- we are concerned with the latest Ofsted result and that the proposed expansion will make this worse.

Alex suggested completing the consultation forms so cabinet are aware this is a concern for the parents.

Parent raised that his concern is monitoring and evaluating will become more difficult with increased children in the class. Business manager Sarah Lenton advises parent that at the moment the school is very fortunate to have 25 in a class instead of 30 and that this is a reality it will increase to 30, almost every school operate with 30 children per class and parents have to have faith in the teachers and support staff that they can monitor and evaluate every child within the class.

12. What happens if children don't apply for the school?

We can't control who will or won't apply for a school place at Leighswood.

13. What's the benefit for the school to expand?

Funding, at the moment the school is operating on a three form entry and paying for three additional teachers without the funding for this. If the expansion is agreed we will secure the funding which will ease the school budget.

14. If we don't go ahead will funding become an issue?

Sarah (Business Manager) advises that realistically yes it will, this is a problem all schools are facing and we are fortunate that we are being considered for expansion so we can at least secure additional funding for the additional pupil places.

15. Public areas will become more crowded if the school expands.

All these areas will be looked at by design and planning if the expansion is agreed.

16. Can we see any plans before this is put to cabinet?

There aren't any plans available to see because nothing has been agreed. Plans will be put into place once the expansion has been agreed.

Comment- local residents raised there is an issue with the security lighting within the school shining into their houses.

Alex advised maybe they could propose a residents meeting with the school to raise these concerns, if the school aren't aware they won't be able to change anything.

Another parent raised there are two different viewpoints, one of the residents and one of the parents. Residents see things differently because it affects their house. Alex suggested all these are valid points and should be raised in the response forms so cabinet can take all this into account.

Residents are still unhappy about the bus situation outside the school and how this poses a very real danger to the children of Leighswood. Alex again suggested this was put onto a consultation form and submitted to cabinet. Alex also raised that as the local authority we have a statutory duty to provide school places. In Walsall the majority of schools are in residential areas and this is a common problem most schools face.

Parents comment that in principal the proposed expansion is a good thing, but these issues need to be worked out.

Location:	Leighswood School
Meeting with:	Staff
Date:	Monday 25 September 2017
Time:	4.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Leighswood School
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	Sarah Lenton- School Business Manager Deputy head teacher
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	19 x staff members

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Leighswood Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the staff that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. Our main concern is the road outside

Alex advised that this is a common problem most schools face as a lot of schools in Walsall are in residential areas. Highway teams will be looking into this issue as part of the planning process. There are alternatives that can be looked into such as drop off points/ bays, and different entrances.

2. Buses are a major concern for us

Complete a response form so cabinet are aware of this issue.

3. If we go above PAN in 2018 would funding be available for this?

Funding is dependent on children admitted into the school, so if additional children were admitted, funding would be available.

4. Will this affect nursery places?

Alex advised nursery provision is not a statutory requirement and is not something admissions can advise on.

5. Where does the funding come from?

Department of Education allocated basic need funding for school expansions.

6. Will the hall and toilets be looked at?

No decisions on where or how the expansion would be incorporated at the school, but this would be reviewed as well.

7. Why didn't the expansion go ahead last time?

There was significant opposition from the school governors and local residents.

8. How do the residents put across their views?

Local residents will be informed if planning permission is needed, in which case all WMBC'S procedures will be followed. Local residents will then have an opportunity to respond.

Location:	Leighswood School
Meeting with:	Governors
Date:	Monday 25 th September 2017
Time:	6.00 pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:					Leighswood School
Alex	Haigh	_	School	Organisation	Deputy head teacher

Manager	
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	5 x School Governors

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Leighswood Primary School larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. How do we make a decision if no plans are definite, especially regarding transport/traffic issues?

Alex suggested completing a response form so this could be submitted to panel listing particular concerns so that these could be taken into consideration when deciding if the expansion will go ahead.

Comment- could traffic issues potentially end up as a one way street? Could bus routes be capped on what times they come to coincide with schools open and closing times?

Alex suggested listing these solutions when completing the response forms as concerns.

Residents aren't going to want this expansion.

Alex reiterated there is a need for school places which the local authority has to respond to and that most schools are in residential areas.

The expansion is going to make traffic/neighbouring issues worse. If we can't do anything about the road, something big has to be considered for the safety of our children.

2. If this is deemed to be too expensive could that potentially be the reason we are not expanded?

Funding has been agreed for school expansions, and how it's spent is down to what the school requires to expand.

Governors said they looked at the numbers for pupil places needed and they weren't required in the area, there was not enough growth to have the expansion go ahead.

3. Is the growth in this area or is it in other areas and children will end up travelling from far that could potentially impact on our attendance?

Projected numbers indicate there is a need, however we cannot guarantee where these children will actually attend school. For example cross border migration, parent applying for schools that may be closer to their work route, rather than where they live.

4. If we expand and then don't fill and we take on extra staffing, could we potentially end up losing staff?

There is never a guarantee that places will fill and funding is dependent on pupil figures. The reality is that Leighswood already operate on a three form entry and pay for two additional teachers without funding for this. This may not be able to continue so the expansion would be a good way of securing funding, instead of not having the potential to take the additional children.

5. Will other close schools start excluding because Leighswood is getting bigger and would have vacancies?

Children cannot be excluded on a whim, and children who are excluded have to go through the FAP process to be placed at a school/

Each Primary school would only be expected to admit one FAP referral and then no others until every Primary school had admitted a FAP child.

Governors questioned this and felt this was not the process.

Alex reiterated that this is the process, has been in place since January 2017 and has been successful so far. Also advised that every school has to take part in the FAP process, they cannot refuse to take a FAP referral even if they are full.

Managed moved also go through FAP.

Governors requested what the PAN numbers were for Whetstone Field, Cooper and Jordan and Saint Mary's the Mount. Advised Whetstone Field is 30, Cooper and Jordan is 60 and St Mary's the Mount is 60.

6. Is there an option for us to reduce our PAN to 60, has this been considered?

This has not been considered as we are looking to increase half form entry schools to full, in addition it was the head teacher that approached the Local Authority to increase from a two and a half to a three.

7. Is Castlefort full? Are they a 60 PAN?

Castlefort are a PAN OF 30 and are full.

8. If on the 25th October we are successful and the team of builders put plans in place at what point do we oppose if we are not happy with suggested plans?

Alex advised that any plans put in place would have to be mutually beneficial for all. The head teacher has already met with the builders and was happy with the proposed plans they had suggested, he and senior leadership have input on how this expansion would progress and if road safety is still not satisfactory plans may not go ahead.

9. When is building work going to be done?

It is hoped building work will be completed by September 2018.

Consultation Meeting Notes

Location:	Short Heath Federation- Head teacher Mrs Cathy Draper (exec)
Meeting	School Council
with: Date:	Wednesday 27 September 2017
Time:	2.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Short Heath Federation
Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager	19 school council members
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions Caseworker	Deb Walton – Head of Lane head School Vicki Stephens – Head of Rosedale School Sarah Harris – Head of Short Heath School Cathy Draper – Executive Head

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the children and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Short Heath Federation larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex asked that if the children had any questions at any time throughout the meeting they could interrupt to ask questions or wait until Alex had finished and there would be time for everyone to ask questions.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

Comments

- School expansion is a good idea because more children means more friends.
- More children will be able to get an education
- Some children have to pay for education and if we had more places they wouldn't have to.
- School expansion could be a bad idea because more children may not fit into the school. Our hall isn't big enough.
- There might be more accidents if too many children come into the school.
- We would have to spend more money on equipment, and buy more ipads.
- Executive Head Teacher informed the children that the more children that come into the school, the more money the school gets.
- Alex explained all changes would be to make the school better not worse.

1. Would the school get closed?

Building work will be done in the half terms and the summer holidays so as not to disrupt any learning or lessons. So don't worry I am not going to allow you another two weeks off school.

2. Can we put ideas of things we would like in our classrooms?

Yes you can put ideas forward of what you could like for your teachers to consider.

3. Will rooms have to be moved around?

At the moment we don't know because nothing has been decided or agreed. Builders and planners will look at what they think is best for the school.

4. Will there be extra teachers?

Yes, there will be extra teachers needed for the new classes.

5. How would our playground be made bigger?

Lots of ideas and designs will be looked at; we are not going to take away any space. Maybe we could have separate playgrounds/playtimes.

Comment- I disagree with separate playtimes if people have younger brothers or sisters we won't be able to see them at playtimes, and if they need anything from us we won't be able to help them.

6. Could we have a top floor?

The builders would look at lots of different options that would be best for the school.

7. Will the nursery be getting any bigger?

All these things are going to be looked at as options.

Comment- Because if Mums and Dads can't get a nursery place they may have to travel far and then maybe late for school times and that's not fair.

Location:	Short Heath Federation
Meeting with:	Parents
Date:	Wednesday 27 September 2017
Time:	4.00pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:	Short Heath Federation
Alex Haigh – School Organisation	Deb Walton – Head of Lane Head School
Manager	Vicki Stephens – Head of Rosedale
	School
	Sarah Harris - Head of Short Heath
	School
	Cathy Draper – Executive Head
Nicola Mitchell - Assistant Admissions	6 parents
Caseworker	

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the parents and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Short Heath Federation larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the parents that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. You don't know if you're going to have mobile classrooms?

It would be a structured build in keeping with the schools standards.

2. My only concern is parking outside, more parents will mean more congestion.

Highways will be in consultation with the school. There are various options that could be looked into. Alex explained a large amount of Walsall schools are in residential areas and these are issues that most schools face.

Alex advised it's one of the most popular schools in the area. One of the smallest distances that children travel to this school, less than a mile.

Comment- Even though people live close, they still drive.

Alex advised this could be for various reasons, could be on route to work, convenience etc.

Cathy advised they are starting a five minute walk zone in conjunction with the council's road safety team.

Alex advised to complete a response form to raise any specific concerns so this can be considered by cabinet.

3. Is Lane Head included in the expansion plans?

Nursery is not a statutory requirement, so wouldn't be included within the proposed expansion plans.

Alex reiterated nursery does not feed into reception. It's parental choice if children go to nursery so we cannot discriminate against people who don't wish to send their children to nursery.

4. Why have these six schools been chosen?

Walsall's aim is to eventually change all half form entry schools into full form entries as they are often just as expensive to fund. There are various things we look at such as head teacher interest, Ofsted ratings, need for places within the area, feasibility of the school being able to expand.

5. Will the building work affect the children/functioning of the school?

Building work would be proposed to be completed during half terms and the summer holidays to cause as little disruption to the children and school as possible. Any work that would need to be done whilst the children are in school would be as minimal as possible.

Location:	Short Heath Federation
Meeting with:	Staff
Date:	Wednesday 27 September 2017
Time:	4.30pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:		Short Heath Federation
Alex Haigh - School	Organisation	Deb Walton – Head of Lane Head School
Manager		Vicki Stephens – Head of Rosedale School Sarah Harris – Head of Short Heath

	School Cathy Draper – Executive Head
Nicola Mitchell – Assistant Admissions	31 Staff
Caseworker	

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the staff and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Short Heath Federation larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the staff that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

No questions raised by any staff members.

Comments- The executive head teacher stated that waiting lists are so long and mid-year admissions waiting lists at present we cannot accommodate this, so this is how the proposed expansion has started.

Location:	Short Heath Federation
Meeting	Governors
with:	
Date:	Wednesday 27 September 2017
Time:	5.00pm

PRESENT:

Walsall Council:				Short Heath Federation		
Alex Hai Manager	gh –	School	Organisation	Deb Walton – Head of Lane Head School Vicki Stephens – Head of Rosedale		
iviariagei				School		
				Sarah Harris - Head of Short Heath		
				School		
				Cathy Draper – Executive Head		
Nicola Mit	chell -	Assistant	Admissions	4 Governors		
Caseworke	er					

Alex Haigh introduced herself as the School Organisation Manager for Admissions and Pupil Place Planning and Nicola Mitchell as Admissions Caseworker from Walsall Council to the school governors and explained that today we were going to discuss the possibility of making Short Heath Federation larger starting from September 2019.

It was advised that Nicola would be taking notes of everything that was discussed in the meeting and would write down any questions that anyone had and the answers given to the questions, which would be given as feedback to Walsall Cabinet to assist in the decisions, making process for whether the school would be increased in size. In addition, it was advised if someone asked a question that we could not answer then we could note down the question and come back to the group with an answer as soon as we could.

Alex advised the governors that she had a brief power point presentation with full details on which she would talk through to explain the process.

Questions, Comments & Responses:

1. The funding for the new staff is that on a pupil basis, and if so could we potentially have an issue if numbers aren't filled?

Alex advised that yes funding is based on pupil numbers, however this is an oversubscribed school annually and there is always a waiting list for this school.

Basic need funding is what will fund the schools potential expansion.

2. Is Lane Head involved in the potential expansion?

Alex advised that nursery is not a statutory requirement, so this would be a school decision. All three sites are classed as the federation, so all will be looked at in terms of build, just not increasing nursery numbers.

Head of key stage 1 advises that additional legislation has come in place that states nursery figures over 120 are eligible for funding from the local authority.

3. Is the diocese consulted within this process?

Yes they are, the Executive Head Teacher advised she will contact the school diocese just to see if they have any particular concerns to raise.

4. Do your numbers include a widening of the catchment area?

We don't operate on a catchment area, we admit on admissions criteria.

Generally speaking the furthest distance went as far as 0.4 miles last year.

From the waiting list, there is a demand within this area for school places. Every school within the area is full and have waiting lists for places.

5. Would the build be done all at once?

Our aim is to complete all building work by September 2018, as it's a phased admission we do have time on our hands. Alex also explained that if work is completed and the building is ready by September 2018 the school can admit over PAN which would secure additional funding.

Alex advised if the governors had any particular concerns to complete a consultation form, or additionally if there's something that you're particularly happy with complete a form, so cabinet can take all these issues into account.

TO BE COMPLETED FOLLOWING THE CONSULTATION

Summary of Consultation Responses:

Salisbury Primary School

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Salisbury Primary School. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E.

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				
Total				

Old Church CE (C) Primary School

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Old Church CE (C) Primary School. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E.

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				_
Total			·	

St Michael's Primary School

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of St Michael's Primary School. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				
Total				

Manor Primary School

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Manor Primary School. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				
Total				

Leighswood School

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Leighswood School. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				
Total				

Short Heath Federation

A total of **XX** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Short Heath Federation. There were **XX** responses from pupils, **XX** responses from parents/carers, **XX** responses from staff and **XX** responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				
Parents				
Staff				
Governors				
Parent/Pupil Combined				
Response				
Other				_
Total				

TO BE COMPLETED FOLLOWING THE CONSULTATION

Detailed Consultation Responses



Proposal to significantly enlarge Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church CE (C) Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Federation, and St Michael's Primary School from 1 September 2019

This proposal provides relevant information in accordance with the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

School Details:

Leighswood School Manor Primary School Old Church CE (C) Primary

Broadmeadow Briar Avenue School Street Aldridge Streetly Darlaston WS9 8HZ B74 3HX WS10 8DL

Salisbury Primary School Short Heath Federation St Michael's Primary School

Salisbury Street Stroud Avenue Maple Road
Darlaston Willenhall Pelsall
WS10 8BQ WV12 4EG WS3 4JJ

Local Authority Details:

Walsall Council - Civic Centre Darwall Street Walsall WS1 1TP

Description of the proposal:

Walsall Council, acting as Local Authority, has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available in the local area. Each year Walsall Council uses birth data, information about planned housing developments, and information about cross border migration to project the number of school places that will be needed in the future. In order to ensure that additional places are made available in the areas where they will be needed the Council organises its primary schools into 11 Primary Planning Areas. Additional places are needed from 1 September 2019 in order to meet an increasing demand for primary school places in the local area. Walsall Council is proposing to expand Leighswood School, Manor Primary School, Old Church CE (C) Primary School, Salisbury Primary School, Short Heath Federation, and St Michael's Primary School from 1 September 2019 in order to meet the increased demand for primary places in each area.

The table below shows the number of places, which are currently available in Reception across all the schools in the five planning areas affected by the proposal, the actual number of pupils who were on roll at schools in the planning areas in May 2017, and the number of children who are projected to be admitted in the next four years:

Planning	Total	Actual	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Area	places	number on	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected

	available in Reception	roll at the time of the May 2017 Census	Reception admissions	Reception admissions	Reception admissions	Reception admissions
Planning Area 1	472	476	473	488	491	500
Planning Area 2	495	495	449	493	455	458
Planning Area 7	375	370	337	384	391	398
Planning Area 8	195	195	214	155	218	220
Planning Area 9	285	284	284	293	292	297

Primary Planning Area 1

Old Church CE (C) Primary School

Old Church CE (C) Primary School provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 years. Currently the school admits 45 pupils to each year group. The school currently has places for a total of 315 pupils (including the nursery class). In addition, there are currently 52 nursery places. The school is a voluntary controlled school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 45 to 60 from 1 September 2019, the school will then become 2 FE (Forms of Entry), and it is currently 1.5 FE. In addition, it is proposed that the school will admit up to 15 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until PAN of 60 applies to all year groups.

Salisbury Primary School

Salisbury Primary School provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 years. Currently the school admits 45 pupils to each year group. The school currently has places for a total of 315 pupils (including the nursery class). In addition, there are currently 48 nursery places. The school is a community school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 45 to 60 from 1 September 2019, the school will then become 2FE, and it is currently 1.5 FE. In addition, it is proposed that the school will admit up to 15 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the PAN of 60 applies to all year groups.

Primary Planning Area 2

Short Heath Federation

Short Heath Federation provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 year via Rosedale C of E Infant School and Short Heath Junior School. Currently the school admits 60 pupils to each year group. The school currently has

places for a total of 420 pupils. In addition, there are currently 117 nursery places. The school is a community school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 60 to 90 from 1 September 2019, the school would become a 3 FE, and currently it is 2FE. In addition, it is proposed that the school will admit up to 30 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the 90 intake applied to all year groups.

Primary Planning Area 7

Manor Primary School

Manor Primary School provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 years. Currently the school admits 45 pupils to each year group. The school currently has places for a total of 315 pupils. In addition, there are currently 26 nursery places. The school is a foundation school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 45 to 60 from 1 September 2019, the school would become 2FE, and currently it is 1.5FE. In addition, it is proposed that the school will admit up to 15 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the 60 intake applied to all year groups

Primary Planning Area 8

<u>Leighswood School</u>

Leighswood School provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 2 – 11 years. Currently the school admits 75 pupils to each year group. The school currently has places for a total of 525 pupils (including the nursery class). In addition, there are currently 78 nursery places. The school is a community school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 75 to 90 from 1 September 2019, the school would become 3 FE, currently it is 2.75 FE. It is also proposed that the school will admit up to 15 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the 90 intake applied to all year groups.

Primary Planning Area 9

St Michael's CE (C) Primary School

St Michael's CE (C) Primary School provides primary education for pupils between the ages of 3 – 11 years. Currently the school admits 45 pupils to each year group. The school currently has places for a total of 315 pupils (including the nursery class). In addition, there are currently 52 nursery places. The school is a voluntary controlled school in Walsall.

It is proposed to permanently expand the school to increase the number of places in the Reception year group, from 45 to 60 from 1 September 2019, the school would become 2 FE, and currently it is 1.5 FE. In addition, it is proposed that the school will admit up to 15 children above PAN in September 2018. The increased admission number and school intake would then move up through the school annually, until the 60 intake applied to all year groups.

Effect on other schools in the area:

Additional places are needed in order to meet an increasing demand for primary school places in the Walsall Borough the proposed expansion of these six primary schools will enable the local authority to meet its statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available in each of the planning areas and will not jeopardise the viability of any other mainstream school.

Site Arrangements:

No new or additional sites will be required; building work will be undertaken as necessary on the existing sites at the schools.

Projects Costs and Funding:

The proposed expansions will involve extensions, alternations, remodelling or new buildings on all four school sites. The estimated cost of each of the proposed expansions is as follows:

- Leighswood School: £585,270 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).
- Manor Primary School: £863,145 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).
- Old Church CE (C) Primary School: £877,925 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).
- Salisbury Primary School: £1,964,970 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).
- Short Heath Federation: £1,881,430 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).
- St Michael's CE Primary School: £380,075 (including 20% contingency & IFM fees).

All funding will be from Basic Need Capital and each of the six primary schools will be asked to contribute towards the scheme with funding from their Devoted Formula Capital (DFC). The DFC is allocated from the DFE to the Local Authority and is sent directly to the schools on an annual basis to contribute towards school capital schemes.

Implementation:

The proposal would be implemented from 1 September 2019.

Details of how to respond to the proposal:

The formal consultation period begins on Monday 11 September 2017 concluding on Monday 9 October 2017 at 17:00.

Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Alex Haigh, School Organisation Manager – Admissions & Pupil Place Planning, Zone 2E Civic Centre,

Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP (Tel: 01922 652583; Email alex.haigh@walsall.gov.uk)

Comments on the proposal should be made in writing to the following address: s: Alex Haigh – School Organisation Manager,
Admissions and Pupil Place Planning
Zone 2E Civic Centre
Darwall Street
Walsall
WS1 1TP

Alternatively, by email to: alex.haigh@walsall.gov.uk

Summary of Consultation Responses:

Salisbury Primary School

A total of 1 consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Salisbury Primary School. There were 0 responses from pupils, 0 responses from parents/carers, 0 responses from staff and 1 response from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E.

	1	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return	
Pupils				$\sqrt{}$	
Parents				\checkmark	
Staff				$\sqrt{}$	
Governors	1				
Resident				√	
Other				√	
Total	1	0	0		

Recommendation: continue with the expansion at Salisbury Primary School with the full support of the school governors.

Old Church CE (C) Primary School

A total of 3 consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Old Church CE (C) Primary School. There were 0 responses from pupils, 1 response from parents/carers, 2 response from staff and 0 responses from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E.

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				√
Parents			1	
Staff			2	
Governors				$\sqrt{}$
Resident				$\sqrt{}$
Other		_		
Total	0	0	3	

There were three responses to the proposal which detail that they are not in support of expansion.

The negative response to the proposal for the expansion at Old Church main revolve around the suitability of the site and the placement of the additional classrooms required on the school site. There are concerns that the site is already tight and incorporating more children could cause overcrowding.

Recommendation: continue with the plans to expand as feasibility studies have been undertaken to ensure there is enough space at the site and as of yet there are no plans in place as to where the building could expand and where the classrooms could be placed.

St Michael's Primary School

A total of 70 consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of St Michael's Primary School. There were 1 response from pupils, 10 responses from parents/carers, 15 responses from staff and 1 response from school governors. In addition there were 37 responses from residents and 6 responses from others. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?				
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return	
Pupils	1				
Parents	4		6		
Staff	14		1		
Governors	1				
Resident	3	11	24		
Other	4		2		
Total	27	11	33		

The negative responses to the proposal to expansion St Michael's Primary School are in main from local resident's concerned with potential increase in volume of traffic.

Recommendation: to continue with the expansion at St Michael's Primary School.

The Council's Integrated Facilities Management team will work with the Highways and Planning Services in order to identify additional on site and off street parking and drop off points in order to address local residents concerns. The school travel plan will be reviewed and updated to reflect changes required.

Manor Primary School

A total of **5** consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Manor Primary School. There were **0** responses from pupils, **3** responses from parents/carers, **0** responses from staff and **0** responses from school governor and 1 response from residents and 1 response from others. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?				
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return	
Pupils				V	
Parents	3				
Staff				$\sqrt{}$	
Governors				$\sqrt{}$	
Residents	1				
Other	1			V	
Total	5	0	0		

Recommendation: continue with the expansion at Manor Primary School with the support of parents and residents.

Leighswood School

A total of 12 consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Leighswood School. There were 1 response from pupils, 3 responses from parents/carers, 2 responses from staff and 1 response from school governors, 2 resident and 2 councillors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?				
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return	
Pupils		1			
Parents			3		
Staff	1	1			
Governors	1				
Resident			3		
Other		2			
Total	2	4	6		

The negative responses to the proposal to expansion Leighswood School are in main from local residents concerned with potential increase in volume of traffic and road safety.

Recommendation: to continue with the expansion at Leighswood School.

The Council' Integrated Facilities Management team will work with the Highways and Planning Services in order to identify additional on site and off street parking and drop off points in order to address local residents concerns. The school travel plan will be reviewed and updated to reflect changes required.

Short Heath Federation

A total of 1 consultation response forms were received in relation to the proposed expansion of Short Heath Federation. There were 0 responses from pupils, 0 responses from parents/carers, 0 responses from staff and 1 response from school governors. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E

	Do you support the proposal?			
	Yes	Unsure	No	Nil Return
Pupils				V
Parents				$\sqrt{}$
Staff				$\sqrt{}$
Governors	1			
Resident				$\sqrt{}$
Other				
Total	1			

Recommendation: continue with the expansion at The Short Heath Federation with the full support of the school governors.

Neighbouring Authority

A total of 1 consultation response was received in relation to the proposed expansions at six primary schools in the Walsall Local Authority from neighbouring authorities. Responders were asked to indicate whether they supported the proposal, details of their responses are provided in the table below and full responses are detailed as Appendix E.

	Do you support the proposal?				
	Yes Unsure No Nil Return				
Staffordshire Local Authority	1				

Recommendation: continue with the expansions at the schools details with support of Staffordshire Local Authority