

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in or provided in relation to proposals

Insert the information asked for in the expandable box below each section.

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

In respect of an LA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school and a contact address for the local education authority who are publishing the proposals.

The Local Education Authority publishing the proposal is Halton Borough Council, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QF.

The category of school is a Community School. The school is The Heath A Specialist Technology College, Clifton Road, Runcorn. WA7 4SY.

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

It is proposed for the enlargement of the Heath Schools as part of the Halton BSF programme, The Heath will be rebuilt and refurbished. It is proposed to increase the number of 11 -16 places offered by The Heath Specialist Technology College from current admission of 210 Year 7 pupils in September 2009 to 270 for Year 7 pupils once the rebuild of The Heath has been completed, this is estimated to be from September 2013 onwards.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including—
- (a) the date by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
 - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Part (a)

The publication date of the statutory notice is 14th January 2010. The four weeks representation period will be complete by 12th February 2010.

Part (b)

All comments must be put in writing to Mr M Reaney, Operational Director (Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources) and Monitoring Officer, Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QF.

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

It is proposed for the enlargement of the Heath Schools as part of the Halton BSF programme, The Heath will be rebuilt and refurbished. It is proposed to increase the number of 11 -16 places offered by The Heath Specialist Technology College from current admission of 210 Year 7 pupils to 270 for Year 7 pupils once the rebuild of The Heath has been completed, this is estimated to be from September 2013 onwards.

School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 or paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007, the proposals must also include—

(a) details of the current capacity of the school and where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The current capacity of The Heath Specialist Technology College is 210 per year group and a total of 1050. It is proposed that the expanded school will have a Published Admission Number of 270 with a total of 1350 places.

(b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

Based on the January 2009 PLASC the pupil numbers at The Heath Specialist Technology College were as follows:

Year 7 - 209
Year 8 - 211
Year 9 - 210
Year 10 - 209
Year 11 - 209

(c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

It is proposed to increase the number of 11 -16 places offered by The Heath Specialist Technology College from current admission of 210 Year 7 pupils in September 2009 on an incremental basis. The Local Authority, as the Admission Authority agreed with the School an admission limit of 236 which was published for the September 2010 intake, and is consulting on a limit of 240 for the September 2011 intake, which will remain for the 2012 intake. The number of places will be further increased to 270 the proposed admission number for Year 7 pupils once the rebuild of The Heath has been completed, this is estimated to be from September 2013 onwards..

(d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

N/A

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 to 4, and 7 and 8 of Schedule 2 or paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

On the January 2009 PLASC at The Heath Specialist Technology College had 1048 pupils. (inc 34 Full SEN Statemented Mainstream pupils) pupils.

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

N/A

Additional Site

7.—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

N/A

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

N/A

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 7 or 14 of Schedule 2 or 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 —

(a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

(b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

(c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision;

(d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 7 or 14 of Schedule 2 or 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 —

(a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved;

N/A

(b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

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Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

N/A

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

N/A

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

N/A

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

N/A

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site

N/A

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in area will be discouraged.

N/A

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The objectives of the proposal are to expand a popular school which is oversubscribed each year from 210 per year group to 270. This will allow more parents access to a high performing school. The Heath Specialist Technology College is also a successful school. It is one of the highest performing secondary school in Halton.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

Part (a) The following people were consulted as part of the consultation: Staff and governors

Pupils and parents Staff and governors of all Halton Schools; Trade Unions; Elected Members, Executive Board

Trade Unions
Other Neighbouring Authorities;
Diocesan Authorities;
Health Authority;
Learning and Skills Council;

Part (b)

The minutes of all consultation meetings are available on the website. The minutes for the pre - statutory consultation for The Heath Specialist Technology College held on 07th July 2009 are also available. Three separate meetings were held with school staff, governors and parents.

Information was posted and distributed to schools, placed on public notices in all schools and key information points such as Children's Centres and Direct Link and placed on the website

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

The rebuild and remodelling of The Heath Specialist Technology College will be met from the BSF Programme funding envelope.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

OBC approval letter for the Halton BSF Scheme was received on the 13th August 2009

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

N/A

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

(a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

N/A

(b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

(c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

(d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within

3 miles of the school;

(e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (1) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (a) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (b) increase participation in education or training; and
- (c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area.

N/A

(2) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school will provide sixth form education, the proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

N/A

- (b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

- (c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

- (d) details of how the provision will be funded;

- (e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

- (f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

(g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

(h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children;

(i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

(a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

(b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

(c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision;

(d) a statement as to how the authority believe that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

N/A

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex education in the area;

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education;

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area;

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

N/A extended services will continue to be delivered

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

Parents will continue to have the right to express a preference. It is recommended that for each of the years up to 2013 a degree of flexibility is retained at each of the three secondary schools in Runcorn to ensure all pupils can be accommodated in advance of the completion of the BSF Programme. It is estimated that there will be a requirement for a total of at least 4074 mainstream places in Runcorn by 2018. In order to meet this requirement it is proposed that the four secondary schools have the following Published Admission Numbers (PAN) to ensure that by 2013 there are a total of 29 forms of entry in Runcorn with a total 870 pupils in each year group.

For 2013 it is recommended, subject to approval by the Halton Admission Forum, that the Published Admission Numbers would be; Halton High - 180 (6 form entry plus sixth form); St Chad's Catholic & Church of England High School - 240 (8 form entry plus sixth form); The Grange School - 180 (6 form entry); The Heath – A Specialist Technology College - 270 (9 form

entry).

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice;

N/A

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

N/A

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

- (a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 and paragraphs 12 and 13 of Part 2 to Schedule 2; ;
(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 to Schedule 4. of the Prescribed Alteration regulations.

(3) Whilst not required by regulations to provide this information for any LA proposals to expand a voluntary or foundation school, it is desirable to provide this below.

This proposal is an expansion of a popular and successful school.

Additional information in the case of special schools

26. Where the proposals relate to a special school the following information must also be provided—

- (a) information as to the numbers, age range, sex and special educational needs of the pupils (distinguishing boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is made at the school;

N/A

- (b) information on the predicted rise or fall (as the case may be) in the number of children with particular types of special educational needs requiring specific types of special educational provision;

- (c) a statement about the alternative provision for pupils who may be displaced as a result of the alteration;

(d) where the proposals would result in the school being organised to make provision for pupils with a different type or types of special educational needs with the result that the provision which would be made for pupils currently at the school would be inappropriate to their needs, details of the other schools which such pupils may attend including any interim arrangements and transport arrangements to such schools;

(e) where the proposals relate to a foundation special school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.