



SCHOOL ORGANISATION PROPOSALS

Prescribed Alterations to a Community Special School

Uffculme School

Date of Proposal: 17th September 2015

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal.

Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006

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.

Not applicable

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

1. The name, address and category of the school.

Birmingham City Council, Education & Skills Infrastructure, PO BOX 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT

School Name: Uffculme School

School Address: Queensbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QB

Category: Community Special School

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.

1st September 2016

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
 - (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), 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.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on any or all of the proposals by visiting www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools/uffculme or by writing to School Organisation Team, Education and Skills Infrastructure, PO Box 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT. The last date for comments is 15th October 2015. A copy of the public notice can be found on the above website.

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.

The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Increase in the number of pupils 155 to 204

2. Two additional sites have been identified for the expansion of the school at;
 Site One: Chamberlain House, Yew Tree Road, Birmingham B13 8QB
 Site Two: 40 Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RE

Uffculme School educates pupils of 2 – 19 years. The school educates children with a statement or education health plan for Autistic Spectrum Conditions.

It is proposed that the site at Russell Road will be for the Post-16 provision.

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 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), 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;

Uffculme School currently has 153 pupils on roll, can offer up to 155 places, and plans to offer 204 places by 1st September 2016.

- (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;

Special schools do not have an admission number per year group. The pupils attending the school will have a statement of special education needs that will name the school. The pupils are not admitted solely in a specific year group. The current numbers on roll, per year group are as follows:

R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13	Total
7	12	8	16	11	19	15	8	8	15	10	8	8	8	153

- (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;

Not applicable

- (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.

Not applicable – special schools do not have admission numbers

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

At the time of publication, the total number of students on roll is: 153 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.

Not applicable

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.

The school currently operates from Queensbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RD. Two additional sites have been acquired for the expansion.

Site 1: Chamberlain House, Yew Tree Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QG (0.5km from Queensbridge Road) this site is for the expansion of the school up to year 11.

Site 2 : Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RE is for P-16 provision (and is 1.02km from Queensbridge Road

(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.

Not applicable

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 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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;

The proposal is expand the school by adding two additional sites.

Site 1: Chamberlain House, Yew Tree Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QG (0.5km from Queensbridge Road) this site is for the expansion of the school up to year 11.

Site 2 : Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RE is for the post 16 provision (and is 1.02km from Queensbridge Road)

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

Site 1: Chamberlain House, Yew Tree Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QG is 0.5km from Queensbridge Road Moseley site.

Site 2: Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RE is 1.02km from Queensbridge Road.

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

The Uffculme site on Queensbridge Road is not suitable for a building expansion. It has been necessary to accommodate pupils in temporary accommodation whilst we have tried to identify a suitable alternative site. Chamberlain House, Yew Tree Road and 40 Russell Road Moseley have now been identified as two sites to enable us to expand Uffculme School permanently.

These changes are considered appropriate for the current pupils at the school in order to provide an improved accommodation solution and better meet the needs of its pupils, and is part of a programme to enhance the overall school accommodation solution for its current and future pupils.

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

The site complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and is fully accessible.

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

Education Transport will be fully engaged and advised of the proposed changes. They will continue to provide the home school transport level of provision that the children need to ensure that they can attend all three sites. The Local Authority's transport arrangements will apply where applicable.

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

The School Travel Plan will be updated following the implementation of the changes to promote sustainable transport and reduce car use where possible. This is currently in the process of being updated with the Local Authority in readiness.

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

Birmingham City Council is proposing the above prescribed changes, in line with the Special Schools Additional Places Programme. The changes are considered appropriate for the current pupils at the school in order to provide an improved accommodation solution and better meet the needs of its pupils.

In September 2009 Uffculme School went through school organisation changes to raise their upper age limit to 19 to include a provision for secondary aged pupils with Autistic

Spectrum Disorder. It was proposed that they would increase year on year from year 7 onwards.

The Queensbridge site was unsuitable for a permanent expansion and it was agreed that the pupils would be accommodated in portacabin-type accommodation until suitable accommodation for expansion was identified.

Chamberlain House was identified as a suitable site for the expansion. Full Business Case agreed by Cabinet in Jan 2014. Due to delays purchasing Chamberlain House the pupils have been accommodated in portacabin-type accommodation on Queensbridge Road and more recently on Chamberlain Road site.

Russell Road Moseley has also been purchased for the accommodation of 30 Post-16 pupils.

The expansion of the school onto three sites will enable a greater number of pupils to access the successful provision. The school was given an outstanding ranking on their last 2 OFSTED inspections. In 2014 the achievement of pupils, quality of teaching, Behaviour and Safety of Pupils and Leadership and management was all found to be outstanding.

It will enable the Council to meet its statutory duty to not only provide pupil places but also promote diversity and increase parental choice in planning and securing the provision of school places.

The proposed changes will offer professional development and improve retention and recruitment of the school's high quality teaching and non-teaching staff.

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.

All statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with. Due regard and careful consideration was given to the guidance contained within 'School Organisation - Maintained Schools, Guidance for Proposers and Decision-Makers' document, Jan 2014. All individuals or bodies suggested in the guidance are being consulted and their views considered.

A copy of the proposal document was sent out to the school week commencing 7th September for distribution to parents/carers of all children registered at the school.

This document can be found on www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools/uffculme

Officers offered the school the opportunity for parents meetings during the representation period. An email has been sent to all relevant Local Councillors, MP, neighbouring authorities, the Diocesan (Both Anglican and Roman Catholic) and trade unions with information on how to obtain consultation packs. An online response BeHeard survey is in place for consultees to respond during the representation period.

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.

This project is part of the Special Schools Additional Places programme.

The costs are as follows;

- Provision & Refurbishment of modular accommodation on Chamberlain House – £579,280.00 funded through Basic Need Grant.
- Provision and refurbishment of Chamberlain House - £5,236,078.00 funded by Basic Need Grant.
- Purchase and refurbishment of Russell Road Site, Moseley Road - £900,000.00 purchase and £1,223,392.00 from Demographic Growth Capital fund.

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).

All costs will be met by Birmingham City Council through their Basic Need funding allocation. The Russell Road Building purchase and refurbishment has been funded by Demographic Growth Capital Funding. All projects costs have been included in Full Business Cases and have received Cabinet approval.

Age range

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

Not applicable

Early year's 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;

Not applicable

- (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;

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

- (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; and

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) 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—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not applicable

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not applicable

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not applicable

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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;

The school provides education for children with a statement of need or Education Health and Care Plan for Autistic Spectrum Condition. This current designation will remain in place after the expansion.

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

Not applicable

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

The school will have 204 commissioned places by September 2016.

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

All costs will be met by Birmingham City Council through the Basic Need funding and Demographic Growth capital Funding. (Please see breakdown in No. 12 Project Cost above.)

- (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;

The school will continue to accommodate all of its current pupils.

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

Not applicable

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

Two additional sites are to be provided at :

Site 1: Chamberlain House Yew Tree Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QB is 0.5km from Queensbridge Road Moseley site.

Site 2 : Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8RE is 1.02km from Queensbridge Road

- (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; and

The proposal means that some pupils will be accommodated in different sites now and in the future. The proposals are conducive with the school's aspirations to improve the standard and quality of educational provision for its current and future children. The expansion will allow more children to access the outstanding provision at the school.

- (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.

The school will have 204 commissioned places by September 2016.

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;

Not applicable

- (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;

All current pupils will continue to be taught at Uffculme School as required.

- (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; and

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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.

The changes are considered appropriate for the current pupils at the school in order to provide an improved accommodation solution and better meet the needs of its pupils. The addition of the two extra sites is part of a programme to enhance the overall school accommodation solution for its current and future pupils. The Uffculme site is not suitable for expansion. The Chamberlain site on Highbury Road was identified as a suitable alternative accommodation - subject to refurbishment- which would allow Uffculme School to transfer some of its pupils and have enough capacity to allow Uffculme School to increase its pupil numbers to 204.

The addition of the Russell Road Building will help support up to 30 students with high and complex Autistic Spectrum Continuum needs, aged 16 -19 to become confident, responsible and participative citizens and employees in their local and wider community. The new centre will help to provide opportunities to broaden and deepen existing knowledge and experiences. The provision is sited strategically close to all supporting agencies and amenities allowing young people with high and complex needs to fulfil their potential through the development of many skills thus allowing them to take their place in our local communities.

The proposal will help to create additional special school places in line with demand so more pupils going forwards have access to suitable places.

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;

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

- (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).

Not applicable

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; and

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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;

Birmingham City Council is proposing the above prescribed changes, in line with our Special Additional Places (SAP) Programme. Please find here a link to the Education Development Plan www.birmingham.gov.uk/edp and Education Sufficiency Requirements document published in February 2015: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools/esr .

The headlines are as follows:

- Birmingham City Council as the local authority for Birmingham has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.
- The city of Birmingham has a growing population with one of the youngest populations in Europe and the number of births in the city has risen rapidly over the last few years.
- To compound this Birmingham is also experiencing high levels of in year growth due to net migration into the city.
- On the basis of current demand for special school places, without factoring in trends in complex needs, our model indicates the need for an additional 554 places from 2012–20 based purely on growth and assuming that the proportion of young people with complex needs remains constant and the proportion of those young people educated in special schools remains constant.

Post 16 - In April 2013 Education & Skills Infrastructure circulated an E brief to all Birmingham institutions eligible to apply for DGCF (i.e. Schools, Further education Colleges and young Peoples Learning Agency's Independent Providers.) This briefing identified the key gaps in provision identified for Post-16 gap analysis. Applications meeting BCC priorities were invited from providers identified as eligible by the Education Funding Agency (EFA.) All applicants were subject to internal review by a panel consisting of representatives from Finance, Planning, SENAR & EdSI. Uffculme School bid was approved.

- (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;

Not applicable

- (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.

Not applicable

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; and

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4 of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

Not applicable