

Forestdale Primary School

Proposal To Transfer To A New Site

June 2024



Introduction

Birmingham City Council, as the Local Authority for Birmingham is consulting on a proposal to make changes at Forestdale Primary School:

- Transfer to a new site

Type:	Community School		
Name:	Forestdale Primary School	DFE:	330/2486
Address:	Wareham Road, Frankley, Birmingham, West Midlands, B45 0JS		
Ward:	Frankley Great Park	Constituency:	Northfield
Age Range:	3-11	Sixth Form:	N/A
Gender:	Mixed	Capacity:	295
Last Ofsted:	October 2022	Ofsted Rating	Good

Why do we want to do this?

Background:

Birmingham City Council applied to the Department for Education to have Forestdale rebuilt under the School Rebuilding Programme application in 2022. The application was unsuccessful. The proposal to transfer the school to an alternative site within a new purpose-built school building would greatly benefit the school and its pupils.

Why has this school been chosen / identified?

An opportunity has arisen to support in providing Forestdale with a new building as well as supporting the local housing development within the area. This proposal is for Forestdale Primary School to transfer to a new site on the former North Worcestershire Golf Course (NWGC) housing development site at North Worcestershire Golf Club, 12 Hanging Lane, Birmingham B31 5LP with effect from 1st September 2026. The school will serve the housing development and new families from the estate as well as current pupils.

As the location of the new Forestdale Primary School site is within 1 mile of the current school site there is no requirement for a full Statutory Process to be undertaken. The proposed relocation is with full agreement of the school's governing body. We appreciate that moving schools can be an upheaval for parents and children but we believe this move to be in the best interest for all.

How will the proposal increase standards and parental choice

The Local Authority is keen to ensure that future places are provided in the areas that they are needed; helping children to attend a school nearer to home and as part of their local community. The proposed changes at Forestdale Primary School are considered appropriate for the current pupils at the school and is part of a programme to enhance the overall school accommodation solution for both the current and future pupils, as well as supporting a new local housing development.

Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?

There should be no negative effects on other mainstream schools, as Forestdale Primary School is already operating within the area and the new location is within 1 mile of its current location.

Travel and Transport:

If the proposal is approved the school will update their travel plan in line with the proposed changes.

How will this affect staff?

Staff will generally be unaffected; the new site at NWGC is within 1 mile from the current Forestdale Primary School site, with good transport links. This may mean that some members of staff experience changes to their daily commute.

What are the project costs for this proposal and how is it funded?

The funding for the Forestdale Primary School at the new site is estimated to cost approximately circa £9.5 million. The funding for this will come from different sources £4.8 million is from Section 106 funding is aligned to the new development and the remainder will be provided from the Local Authority School Condition Allocation and Basic Need Allocation.

Will this definitely happen?

No, there is a significant change process which needs to be followed. If the proposal is approved by the decision maker following the consultation, Birmingham City Council, intends that the proposal will be implemented by September 2026.

It is only after a decision that we will be able to say with certainty whether or not the proposal will be implemented.

What will happen if this proposal is rejected?

If this proposal is rejected, the school will continue to function from its current location.

How do I comment on this proposal?

We invite all interested parties to give us their comments on this proposal.

Any comments must be received no later than 18th July 2024

https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/forestdale_sot10197

You can write to us at:

By email:

eds.enquiries@birmingham.gov.uk

By letter to:

School Organisation

Education Infrastructure

Birmingham City Council

PO Box 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT

What happens next?

The dates set out below meet the government requirements for us to consult fully with the people affected by the proposal.

Key dates

Action	Date
Statutory notice published	20 th June 2024
Start 4 week consultation period	20 th June 2024
Finish 4 week consultation period	18 th July 2024
Final decision deadline	18 th September 2024
Changes implemented	September 2026

Groups consulted:

- Forestdale Primary School: governors, staff, parents / carers and pupils
- Birmingham City Council colleagues and services
- NHS partners
- Local Councillor(s)
- Member(s) of Parliament
- Birmingham Schools
- Local Archdiocese
- Other / Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Trade Unions / Professional Associations

School Name: Forestdale Primary School

Proposed Change: Proposal to transfer to a new site

Thank you for taking the time to send us your thoughts on this proposal.

Consultation Response Form

Please help us to analyse your response by completing the following:

Your name (optional): _____

Your contact details (optional): _____

Are you in favour of the proposal (please select one answer)?

Yes	No	Neither / Don't know
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What type of stakeholder are you (please select one answer)?

Pupil	
Parent / Carer of pupil	
School Governor	
School Staff	
Local Resident	
Local Councillor	
Member of Parliament	
Other (please describe)	

Please provide your comments on the proposal.

(Continue on additional page, as required.)