

Proposal to Expand Cheswick Green Primary School



Expansion Proposal

Solihull Council is seeking your views on a proposal to expand Cheswick Green Primary School from September 2022. The school currently has capacity for 210 pupils (30 in each year group) and under this proposal the school would expand to a capacity of 420 pupils (60 in each year group).

The school also currently provides early years places for 2 & 3 years olds. This expansion will provide sufficient accommodation to enable an increase in early years places at the school should there be demand from the local community.

Cheswick Green Primary School is considered to be a good school by Ofsted. At January 2020, the school had 255 pupils on roll, including 46 part-time early years pupils.

More detailed information about what is being proposed can be found on the Council website at www.solihull.gov.uk/consultation.

Need for additional school places

Solihull Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for children living in its area.

The School Organisation Plan 2019 provides a detailed analysis of pupil numbers and sets out the forecasting methodology and housing developments in the borough. By September 2020, 1,349 permanent primary school places have been added across Solihull to meet increasing demand for places.

The first phases of the residential development on Blythe Valley Park were approved in 2018. When complete, the housing development is expected to consist of up to 750 dwellings with an expected pupil yield of 210 pupils. A small number of completed dwellings are now being occupied by families and applications for school places are being accommodated within existing school capacity.



Why Cheswick Green Primary School?

Cheswick Green Primary School is the closest school to the development and is the catchment area school for primary age pupils. It is the school where families will have the highest priority for a school place. As well as Blythe Valley, Cheswick Green Primary School is also meeting the demand from families living in the Mount Dairy Farm housing development in Cheswick Green.

Feasibility work undertaken so far has shown that the school site has room for the additional building that will be needed to accommodate the increase in pupils and maintaining sufficient outdoor space. Any physical expansion to the school buildings will be subject to all normal planning processes. The Headteacher and Governing Body of the School are supportive of the expansion proposal, in principle, and will continue to work with the Council over the coming months.



Key

-  Cheswick Green Primary School
-  Proposed New Extension

Traffic and parking around the school site.

As with all school expansions of this nature the mitigation and management of additional traffic and parking around the school site will be key to the approval of the proposal. It will also be a major consideration for any planning application that would have to be submitted, if the proposal moves forward after the consultation process.

As part of the expansion process, Officers of the Council will commission a traffic and highways appraisal which will look at both existing traffic and parking at pick up and drop off times, as well as giving consideration to the implications of an expansion in pupil numbers of this nature. As part of this consultation process we are particularly keen to hear the views of the local community on potential solutions to the traffic and parking issues.

How to get involved:

Ask a question

Email	researchandpolicy@solihull.gov.uk (please include <i>ask a question</i> in the subject box) if you have a question about the proposal that you would like answered. A frequently asked questions document will be published and regularly updated on the Council website responding to the questions and issues raised.
Telephone	0121 704 6702 or 6677. You can call the School Place Planning Team to discuss the proposal and ask your question.

Make your views known

Internet	www.solihull.gov.uk/consultation Online Response Form
Email	researchandpolicy@solihull.gov.uk School Place Planning
Post	School Place Planning Team , Council House, Manor Square, Solihull, B91 3QB

Timeline for the proposal:

This timeline is for guidance and could be subject to change as a result of the consultation process.

Nov/Dec	Community consultation on the proposal
Jan 2021	Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Skills considers the outcome of the consultation proposal and decides whether to publish statutory notices
Feb 2021	If approved publication of statutory proposal and 4 week representation period
Mar 2021	Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Skills considers the outcome of the 4 week representation period and decides whether or not to expand Cheswick Green Primary School.

The closing date for consultation responses is **5pm on Friday 18th December 2020.**