

Connection	Agree with Proposal?	Comments on the proposed Expansion of Wheelock Primary School
Parent at Offley	Oppose	<p>I would like to register that I oppose the proposed expansion of Wheelock Primary School. I currently have two children at Offley Primary School, my eldest having left in 2012. It is my view that Offley Primary School should be returned to a two form entry school as soon as possible. This would assist the community as a whole by creating extra places for local pupils, increasing parental choice. It would also enable Offley Primary School to return to non-mixed classes of 30 pupils and the school could be run more efficiently. The budget would remain healthy allowing Offley Primary to maintain its high standards. As Offley previously had a PAN of 60, it already has the infrastructure to accommodate additional pupils and any extension or remodel could be carried out with the minimum of cost and disruption. The school already has 6 classes at KS1 so it is ready to take the estimated increased numbers in September 2014. Although the 3 classes per 2 years in KS2 has been implemented well it is not as satisfactory as 2 classes per year. I believe that this is the preference of the Local Authority. It makes most sense to restore Offley Primary School to previous numbers (PAN of 60) than to expand Wheelock. Thank you for reading this representation.</p>
Unknown	Oppose	<p>The proposal is to increase the PAN at Wheelock Primary School from 30 to 45. This will result in a 1.5 form admission number. Presumably the Council is aware that half-form admission numbers tend not to be popular with parents, who become unnecessarily anxious about whether their child is being 'promoted' or 'kept down' in relation to their peers. It is also much more complex for schools to manage so as to create a coherent curriculum, and in the light of the new primary National Curriculum proposals, likely to become even more complex. I understand that the Council's policy is to maximise the number of schools with whole-form admission numbers in an area. This is eminently sensible. I am therefore struggling to understand the logic behind the proposal. There are already primary schools in Sandbach that do not have whole-form admission numbers. Expansion of any of these could reduce the number of schools with part-form admission numbers. Instead the proposal to expand Wheelock Primary School will increase the number of schools in Sandbach with part-form admission numbers.</p>
Parent at Offley	Oppose	<p>We have 7 children from ages 15 months to 16 years, and I'm writing to say we are against this expansion.</p>

		<p>There is no need for this to be done, as there is room in all the other school to extend their intake, to make this not necessary. Also from a safety issue. The Wheelock school already causes severe congestion at home time and in the morning. Many boys and girls have to walk past this school to go and come home from school, who attend the boys and girls school in Sandbach. There are cars coming and going all the time in a morning and of a night. These children have to walk within all this chaos. I know of at least 2 of my children's friends who have nearly been knocked down to the amount of cars blocking their way in a morning.</p> <p>Wheelock's intentions to make this school double the size will only increase this. While the work would be taking place, and afterwards and would most certainly cause a children to be hurt and could even be fatal by the doubled amount of traffic there would be. Also its not fair that should be considered for this high amount of money for something that's not entirely necessary. There's enough other schools in the area that are more than capable to extend their intake to be able to cope with the higher intake of children in the years to come. Which would be far more fair and a much safer option, cutting the risk of children being involved in a road / traffic accident by the amount of traffic by at least half, which i think should be a priority over anything else. That's who is going to benefit so this issues should be paramount.</p>
Parent of Offley	Oppose	<p>I wish to oppose the expansion of Wheelock School as this will have a huge impact on the school my son goes to My Child goes to the above school and I am in favor that it would be in Offley's best interest for it to be returned to a 2 form entry school as soon as possible and also for there to be single classes so that they are not mixed ages..</p>
Resident	Oppose	<p>As a resident of Chartwell Park, I am surprised to learn that there are plans to expand the school and that a consultation process has been carried out starting in 2012. The only notification we have received regarding expansion of the school was of the temporary building recently erected and the possibility of converting that to more permanent building at some time in the future. As resident adjoining the school I thought we would have been part of that consultation process. It is disappointing that there has been no effort to consult us on this proposed major change and that we only learned of this by reading a small notice attached to a post outside the school.</p> <p>The proposal is a significant expansion over and above the addition of one classroom.</p> <p>I have a two major of concerns over an expansion of this size:</p>

		<p>1. The traffic and parking problems generated by 210 pupils has an effect on access to Chartwell park and this will be greatly increased if the school role is expanded by 50%.</p> <p>2. The addition of 4 extra class rooms and additional services to support the proposed expansion will significantly increase the size of the school building.</p> <p>As the period for commenting on the proposal closes on the 22 March can you urgently advise where I could view any plans for the proposed expansion.</p>
Parent of Offley	Oppose	<p>For whom it may concern. I'd like to register my concern at the proposed enlargement of the Wheelock Primary School. My children both attend Offley Primary and I would suggest that a more prudent and cheaper solution to the problem would be to look to return Offley to a 2 form entry. This would clearly benefit the community as a whole by creating extra places for use across the community but also would benefit the pupils of Offley who currently have to operate in mixed year classes. I would hope that views such as mine would be taken into consideration especially given there is a significant cost to the proposed Wheelock scheme. Many thanks</p>
Councillor	Oppose	<p>I set out below 6 concerns over the proposed expansion of Wheelock primary school.</p> <p>1) Since July 2012, I have repeatedly asked to see a long term plan for primary school provision in Sandbach. I am told that such a plan is being prepared. What is certain is that the proposed expansion of Wheelock does NOT of itself solve the problem of the shortage of primary school places in Sandbach. How can it be sensible to press ahead with an expensive expansion of one school before there is a plan in place demonstrating how the shortage of primary school places in Sandbach will be addressed over the next 5 years?</p> <p>I attach a spreadsheet showing the likely impact on primary school paces of new housing developments in Sandbach. Please feel free to change the figures in the blue boxes as more information becomes available. I hope that this spreadsheet will assist the council in preparing a plan for providing the necessary primary school places over the next 5 years.</p> <p>2) The school bus service from Ettiley Heath to Wheelock Primary School is currently under review. If it is withdrawn then I predict that many parents from Ettiley Heath will choose Elworth CofE as their first choice school rather than Wheelock. The main reason given to me for expanding Wheelock is that it was the most popular school in Sandbach when the proposal was originally being discussed. This popularity could change if the school bus service is cut.</p> <p>3) Wheelock Primary School has recently had a new headteacher, a new deputy head and a new chair of governors. Is this a good time to be asking this school to expand?</p> <p>4) Wheelock Primary School's funding is being cut by £99,104 in 2013/14. This is well above the average cut</p>

	<p>for primary schools in the area. How can it make sense to expand a school and disproportionately cut its funding at the same time?</p> <p>5) Expanding Offley Road primary school would cost between £300,000 and £600,000.</p> <p>6) It is the council's policy to have schools with whole class intakes (PAN of 30 or 60). This proposal would increase Wheelock to a PAN of 45 and would mean that only 2 out of 6 primary schools in Sandbach had whole class intakes.</p> <p>7) The consultation document states, "The capital investment required is estimated at £1,765,758 which also includes the initial provision of the temporary mobile on site." Yet the amount approved by Council was £1.6m.</p> <p>Is the cost of this proposal £1.6m or £1.8m and how likely is it that the project will come in on budget? I set out below what I said at the full council meeting in July 2012. Much of this remains relevant today.</p> <p>"We are asked to approve £1.6m for works at Wheelock Primary School in Sandbach</p> <p>Wheelock Primary School is a well run school and last year was the most popular school in Sandbach. It is oversubscribed. Why is Wheelock Primary school being increased by half a class? I regard a half class as something likely to cause problems.</p> <p>Second - There is a bus service that is run to Wheelock Primary School from Ettiley Heath – paid for by this council. Given this council's stated desire to cut school transport costs why are we expanding a school in Sandbach that will INCREASE the reliance on school buses? It seems we are cutting buses with one hand and adding buses with the other.</p> <p>It is only a few years since there was a review of primary school education in Sandbach, which led to Sandbach County Primary and Offley Road school intake being cut. Why not increase Offley Road back to 60? When school intakes were cut in Sandbach a few years ago I made the point that birth rates in Sandbach were increasing and we would have to reverse the cuts in a few years time. This knowledge was simply from seeing the number of births in Sandbach. Why couldn't this council have predicted that more babies in Sandbach would lead to more demand for primary school places?</p> <p>Looking to the future there are a large number of houses being built in Sandbach for which planning permission has already been granted and applications for thousands more. Even the plans in the Draft Town Strategy allow for 950 more houses. These houses will require more than half a class of primary school provision. My point here is that there is a long term under provision of primary school places, so why are we bringing in half a class at one school (not in the area).</p> <p>Most of the new houses for which planning permission has been granted are in the Ettiley Heath and Elworth</p>
--	--

		<p>areas. Any children from those areas will have to be bused to Wheelock. Why not spend the money in the area where the children are?</p> <p>The council got it wrong last time when they reviewed primary school provision in Sandbach and I fear that they are getting it wrong again now.</p> <p>I have raised these concerns with council officers but hadn't received a response by last night.</p> <p>Finally I understand that Wheelock Primary School has increased its pupil numbers from 30 to 45 from September. Will the necessary facilities be in place by September 2012 and has planning permission been obtained for the building works needed for next term?"</p> <p>Note: Planning permission approved 18/7/12.</p> <p> Primary School Requirements.xls</p> <p>Document is attached as Annex 4.1</p>
Unknown	Oppose	<p>With reference to the above proposal I would like to set out my objections which are as follows:</p> <p>a) The first, and I feel the most obvious one, is the increase in traffic congestion which already causes disruption and on a very busy main road. This proposal would in my opinion lead to an increase in the danger to other traffic using the road. Also – worse case scenario- it could pose significant risk to children and /or their parents using the school</p> <p>b) I understand that other local primary schools that have not been previously involved were largely against the proposal which will involve a capital spend of about £1.8 million and the building on the site of 4 additional classrooms. I also understand that school numbers at Offley Road and Crewe Road primary schools have only just been reduced because of apparent oversupply of school places. In view of this surely a simple reversal would appear to be a much more sensible option.</p> <p>I hope that when Cheshire East Council debates this proposal my objections will receive serious consideration.</p>

Unknown	Oppose	<p>I wish to set out my objections to the above proposal which are as follows:</p> <p>a) Firstly, and most obviously, there will be a considerable increase in traffic on what is already a very busy main road. In my opinion this will make the road even more dangerous than it is at the moment for other drivers. Also the increase in the number of children attending the school could result in a significant risk of accidents to the children and /or parents using the school</p> <p>b) Apparently the other local primary schools have not been previously involved and are largely against the proposal which will involve a capital spend of about £1.8 million and the building on the site of 4 additional classrooms. I understand that school numbers at Offley Road and Crewe Road Community Schools have only just been reduced because of apparent oversupply of school places- a simple reversal would seem to be a much more sensible option.</p> <p>I trust that my objections will be taken into account when this proposal is being debated by Cheshire East Council.</p>
Resident	Oppose	<p>We moved into Chartwell Park 18 years ago and at that time the school role was around 110 and most of the children lived within walking distance and traffic congestion was not a problem. The original small number of parking places and turning circle was adequate. Now with the school role at 220 there is a major problem at the start and finish of the school day. A large percentage of children now come to the school by car and park in Chartwell Park and Crewe Road. As these are small children they are not dropped off but the cars are parked up and the parents and children walk into in to the school. Both roads are filled with cars trying to find places to park before taking the children into the school. These cars often come with younger brothers and sisters and with so many small children milling around it is likely that sometime in the future there will be an accident. Crewe Road is a wide and busy main road where most cars travel close to the speed limit of 30mph and often exceed the limit. Chartwell Park is a narrow cul-de-sac where speed is not a problem but with the number of cars at school time there are grave concerns if there was an emergency and the access for their vehicles. This was partially recognised by the council and yellow lines were painted on some of the turning circle area in Chartwell Park, these are generally ignored by those taking children to school. I work in the construction industry and if we were to carry out a risk assessment on the present traffic situation, the current arrangement would not be allowed to continue.</p> <p>The proposal will bring another 120 pupils, as these will be coming from across Sandbach, a high percentage</p>

		<p>will travelling by car, this would make the current chaotic arrangement unacceptable. We are all being encouraged to minimise the use of our cars, it makes no sense to concentrate all the additional school places in one school situated at one end of Sandbach. There are schools located across the town, spreading the increase across these schools is the logical solution.</p> <p>In addition, last year there was a new car park built for the staff but this is full and there are regularly staff cars parked in the spaces at the turning circle on Chartwell Park. A 50% increase in the school intake will require more spaces for the extra teaching and support staff, all adding to the congestion.</p> <p>We have supported the school and are please to see it prosper. We did not object the recent temporary building but this scheme is ill considered, out of proportion and unacceptable.</p> <p>As this is a formal objection to the proposed scheme can to confirm receipt of this e mail.</p>
Resident	Oppose	<p>Hello, As a resident on Chartwell Park, Crewe Road, Sandbach, I am writing to register my objections to the Proposed Expansion of Wheelock Primary School which are listed as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Just a couple of years ago, plans were in place to close down Sandbach Primary School further down Crewe Road due to insufficient numbers of children. I would be grateful for confirmation from Cheshire East Borough Council, that before you accept any proposals for expanding Wheelock Primary School, that the other local primary schools such as Sandbach Primary School and Offley Road Primary School are running at full capacity. 2. If this is not the case, how can Cheshire East Borough Council justify spending £1.8million pounds of public money if there are already spaces in other local primary schools? 3. If there is a shortage of primary school spaces within Sandbach as a whole, I would be grateful for confirmation from Cheshire East Borough Council that they have involved the other Primary schools in the area in discussions about the best way forward to respond to any oversupply of children in Sandbach. 4. If Wheelock Primary School has an oversupply of children because of new houses being built within its catchment area, then I would be grateful for Cheshire East Borough Council to confirm that they have looked at adjusting the boundaries of the existing school catchment areas to share the children around the other schools which may well be under capacity. 5. Wheelock Primary School only last year built an additional modular classroom just inside the school fence. This is an eyesore which does not fit in with the architecture of the school building at all. 6. There is insufficient parking space available close to the school to cater for any increase in capacity, let alone a 50% increase in numbers. <p>At drop off and collection times, cars already park on the grass verge area at the top of Chartwell Park, which</p>

		<p>is marked with double yellow lines. As there are no traffic wardens patrolling this area, this practice continues on a daily basis. Cars also park down the full length of Chartwell Park which leaves a narrow access route for residents to leave and return to their houses. This becomes a safety issue as parents and children walk on this narrow strip of road to and from the school and quite often young children run along this narrow strip of road to their cars unaware that this is presumably still part of the public highway.</p> <p>7. When turning around at the bottom of Chartwell Park cars regularly run over the curb and churn up the grass on the lawn to the front and at the side of my property. Similarly cars sometimes park with 2 wheels on the lawn at the side of my property which again causes damage to the lawn especially when we have had a lot of rain.</p> <p>8. As a result of cars parking on either side of Chartwell Park at the top of the road at drop off and collection times, and also on both sides of Crewe Road, the restricted access out of Chartwell Park and restricted vision up and down Crewe Road makes exiting Chartwell Park under these conditions hazardous. As parents sometimes park up to half an hour before school finishing time to 'claim' the prime parking spots at the top of Chartwell Park, this situation isn't just for a 5 or 10 minute period at either end of the school day.</p> <p>9. The children have always been inadequately supervised by staff at the bottom end of the school field at break times and lunch times. School children have in the past reached over the boundary fence and damaged young trees and broken the supporting stakes on my property. They throw branches, sticks and pine cones over the fence onto my drive on a daily basis. With a 50% increase in numbers of children this practice can only get worse.</p> <p>On the basis of the above I strongly object to the Proposed Expansion of Wheelock Primary School on Crewe Road Sandbach and would welcome a response from you on my first 4 points.</p>
Resident	Oppose	<p>I would like to bring my objections to your notice</p> <p>1 The school is doing very well with good ofsted reports why bring major upheaval and disruption to such a good school undoubtedly it will effect the children let the school continue as it is and the children will continue achieving good results.</p> <p>2 The obvious matter of the increased traffic twice a day</p> <p>a) will the proposed alterations include any traffic management solutions such as a dedicated drop of and pick up area.</p> <p>b) would you consider a 20mph speed limit outside school ?.</p> <p>c) why do you want to expand this school when others in the area have been reduced.</p> <p>I believe that polls of parents and teachers are against the expansion but have not seen any figures are you aware of this?.</p>

Resident	Oppose	<p>We note in the proposal assessment that key stakeholders are considered to be staff and children/parents. No mention is made of the school's immediate neighbours like ourselves, who should also be identified as key stakeholders. We find in March 2013 that local residents have still not been adequately considered. No notification was received of consultation activities after the last 'formal' stage in November 2012, despite showing obvious interest as an 'interested party'. We have taken our own steps to notify local residents of this phase of consultation, in the absence of any meaningful attempt by Cheshire East or the school to engage. Therefore we believe the consultation process to date is fundamentally flawed.</p> <p>2. We find it difficult to understand the basic premise of an insufficient supply of primary school places in the next few years, as a couple of years ago an anticipated over-supply was cited for the proposal to close at least one Sandbach Primary School (Sandbach Community Primary on Crewe Road), a decision partly rescinded due to local community pressure, with a reduction in intake by 50% we believe being the outcome. Since this school is within walking distance of Wheelock Primary School, a viable alternative would be to reverse the reduction in numbers at that school (if the under-supply is real). We find in March 2013 that other local primary school staff and governors have raised similar points. We note also their complaint about no prior consultation with them, which confirms our view that the consultation process to date has been incomplete and flawed.</p> <p>3. The traffic situation along our part of Crewe Road is very congested because of parking to drop off pupils (in the morning) and to pick up (in the afternoon) exacerbated by unreasonable parking behaviour by some. This suggests that the school 'local' intake (ie walking distance) is fully covered, with the balance having to be transported back and forth. This suggests increasing the numbers at Wheelock Primary School is putting the extra places in the wrong place. If the proposal goes ahead, we would expect most of the extra children to be transported in and out. If left as is being</p> <p>3. (cont.) If left as is being provided by individual cars parking locally, this will make the exercise significantly more hazardous, as that parking will extend much further both sides of Crewe Road, in particular from the crossing provided immediately outside the school. We find in March 2013 that no further consideration has been given to road safety issues (including for the schoolchildren themselves) around this proposal. The only change has been the threatened closure of bus services from Ettiley Heath! (currently back in abeyance but for how long?).</p> <p>4. We are surprised that the proposed expansion can be accommodated on the existing site, particularly in terms of car parking for the school employees and visitors. The car park this morning (Wednesday 21st November) after the school 'rush' was full. No change in March 2013.</p> <p>5. It would appear to us that this proposal is a short term 'band aid' option even though it is predicated on</p>
----------	--------	---

		<p>forecasts 5 years out. It will be totally inadequate if any of the myriad of housing estate planning applications in the local area are approved, as they are likely to be in the absence of a Local Plan.</p> <p>6. The Local Plan should recognise that at least one (maybe more than one) more primary school is required in the general Sandbach area, more specifically towards Ettiley Heath/Elworth. Planning should be geared towards this expansion, including negotiating funds required from major building developers as part of the planning approval process. Comments to this effect have been made in the draft Local Plan consultation in Feb 2013.</p> <p>7. We note one of the justifications put forward is to improve parental choice as Wheelock Primary School is currently over-subscribed. We note two things:</p> <p>a. Parental choice can be quite changeable, particularly over a 5-year (or more) planning horizon. It wasn't many years ago that parental choice meant that Wheelock Primary School was well below its capacity (certainly in terms of preferred choice).</p> <p>b. Parental choice is important but so is local community choice – an appropriate balance needs to be struck. We note in March 2013 the justification including the Ofsted inspection finding of outstanding in 2011. We believe more than one Ofsted report should be considered, as success should be shown as sustained and sustainable. Also we note questions have been raised about Ofsted findings recently and ask how the Wheelock School Ofsted reports have been validated in the light of these concerns</p>
Resident	Oppose	<p>As residents of Crewe Road, very close to the above school, we would like to object to this proposed expansion.</p> <p>a) There is already severe congestion on this main road twice a day when parents park in any and all available spaces</p> <p>b) Pupil Numbers at Offley Road and Crewe Road Community Primary Schools have been reduced because of "an apparent oversupply of primary school places" - surely reversing this decision and utilising these places is more sensible and would cost much less than the £1.8m proposed expansion by 50% to Wheelock Primary School?</p> <p>c) It is interesting that when the mobile classrooms were put in place recently at Wheelock residents were notified individually. No notification has been given to residents regarding this much more drastic expansion.</p>
Parent Governor of Offley Primary		Please find attached a letter and enclosures on behalf of the Board of Governors of Offley Primary School in

School		<p>response to the Statutory Notice for the proposed expansion of Wheelock Primary School, Sandbach.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Offley response.pdf </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Enclosure 1.pdf </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Enclosure 2.pdf </div> </div> <p>Documents are attached as Annex 4.2 - 4.4 respectively.</p>
Governing Body Elworth Hall	oppose	<p>I am writing to you to highlight the concerns of the Governing Body of Elworth Hall Primary School regarding the proposed expansion of Wheelock Primary School in Sandbach.</p> <p>As a Governing Body we have been closely involved with the consultations which have taken place over recent months, consultations which only took place after local Head Teachers and Governors insisted a proper dialogue took place to discuss the submitted proposals.</p> <p>It became very apparent at the meetings which took place between the Cheshire East Schools Admission Team, Head Teachers and Governors that little thought had been given to the impact the proposed expansion would have on the other primary schools in the area, or indeed what capacity already existed in Sandbach and Haslington. Several of the Head Teachers present at the meetings highlighted grave concerns about the viable future of their school if the expansion goes ahead.</p> <p>As Governors we are here to support and challenge our schools to get the best outcomes for our children. With so many Head Teachers, including our own, worried about the impact of these changes I would like to raise the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having raised our initial concerns with the local authority (LA) a meeting was held at Elworth Hall with myself, our Head Teacher and Barbara Dale. During this meeting Barbara told us that there was no way to predict future birth rate trends or where families would move to when new housing was built in the area. How therefore do the LA now know they have a future shortage of primary school places in Sandbach? 2. Why did it take a complaint from local schools to put in place a proper consultation process with local schools? If the LA is going to find out what is going on in their schools, find out about spare capacity and on what is best for the education of young people in the area surely they need to consult fully with the very people who are on the front line of delivering these services, Head Teachers! 3. Bearing in mind we are in a time of austerity does the LA think it is a good use of public money to expand a school when there is capacity still left in other local schools?

	<p>4. Bearing in mind we are in a time of austerity does the LA think it is a good use of public money to expand a school when there are two schools in the area, Offley and Elworth C of E, that could convert to two form entry with little alteration to their buildings and at a much reduced cost.</p> <p>5. Bearing in mind we are in a time of austerity does the LA think it is a good use of public money to spend huge amounts of money on one school project when other schools are struggling with their budgets following the new funding formula which is now in place. As a school we have just completely lost our Resourced Provision funding for example.</p> <p>6. As a Governing Body we are aware of the issues surrounding local residents and parking at Wheelock Primary School. Do local residents believe it is a good idea to raise the admission numbers for the school, increasing the amount of cars trying to park at dropping off and picking up time?</p> <p>7. Wheelock is on a very busy main road, has the LA given full thought to the added congestion which will be created in the area?</p> <p>8. It has been highlighted on several town plans the LA intends to build a new school off Hind Heath Road. This is very close to other local schools and appears to throw into doubt the need to expand Wheelock at all. Once again this plan would throw into doubt the future of many of our local schools and the hard working teachers within them.</p> <p>As mentioned above these are the concerns which have been highlighted at Governing Body meetings held at Elworth Hall Primary School, as Chair of Governors I was asked to raise them as part of your published "statutory representation period."</p> <p>I look forward to your response which I will share with other Governors.</p>
--	--