

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

### **Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):**

#### **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 .

Ash Grove Primary School & Nursery  
Belgrave Road  
Macclesfield  
SK11 7TF

Ash Grove Primary School & Nursery is a Community school maintained by  
Cheshire East Borough Council,  
Westfields,  
Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach,  
Cheshire, CW11 1HZ

#### **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.

September 2014

### 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 4 weeks from the date of publication of this proposal any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to:-

Children's Services  
Organisation and Capital Strategy,  
Floor 7 c/o Municipal Buildings  
Earle Street  
Crewe  
CW1 2BJ

or via email to [SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk).

### 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 proposal is to expand the school to provide 210 pupil places by increasing the existing capacity by 105 places for implementation by September 2014.

Subject to the outcome of the statutory consultation procedure the, Local Authority has determined an increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 15 to 30 for September 2014 in accordance with statutory requirements. If the expansion is not approved the Published Admission Number will remain at 15.

### 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;

Current capacity of the school is 105 school places. The proposed new capacity of the school is 210.

- (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;

Changes to published admission numbers; which determine the number of pupils to be admitted into the relevant age group, will be made in accordance with the requirements set out in paragraph 1.4 of the School Admissions Code. The relevant age group is defined in law as “an age group in which pupils are or will normally be admitted” to the school.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for this school is 15. If the proposal is approved the Local Authority would implement the increased PAN of 30 which was determined in April 2013 to apply with effect from September 2014.

- (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

(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.

There are currently 138 pupils on roll.

**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.

Proposals to be implemented by the Local Authority.
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**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 is remaining on the existing site. The proposed expansion requires no additional accommodation.
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(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
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**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
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- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

Not Applicable
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- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

Not Applicable
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- (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;

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

Not 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.

Not Applicable

## Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The objective of the proposal is to create additional school places to accommodate the growing demand for places in the local area.

## 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.

In accordance with section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 Cheshire East Council has consulted interested parties on its proposal to expand Ash Grove Primary School and Nursery. Consultation was implemented between 30 April 2013 and 4 June 2013 and in accordance with the guidance issued by the Secretary Of State. The consultation documents were published on the Council's website at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk) throughout the process and were made available in hard copy on request. The Council's website has been updated regularly to provide full details and information about the process has been communicated in writing, including email, to all interested parties. **Appendix 1** contains the list of persons and parties who were consulted together with information about how the consultation has been implemented.

In order to facilitate feedback on the proposal, a formal document was produced (**Appendix 2**) detailing the background to the proposal and the statutory

consultation process, with information on how feedback could be provided. A feedback form was included with the document. **(Appendix 3)** An electronic form was made available online to facilitate feedback and interested parties could also provide feedback orally by telephoning the Council. The feedback received as part of this process is summarised in **Appendix 4**.

### 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.

As the school is re-introducing existing classrooms the proposed increase in the capacity is cost neutral.

**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).

Not Applicable

### Age range

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

Not Applicable

### 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;

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;

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

- (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;

Not Applicable

- (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;

Not Applicable

- (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

Not Applicable

- (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.

Not Applicable

**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;

Not Applicable

- (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.

Not Applicable
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### **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
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- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not Applicable
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- (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
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**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
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- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not Applicable
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**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
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**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;

The proposal to expand Ash Grove Primary and Nursery and return it to a one form of entry (210 place) primary school is to address the school's growing popularity and increasing demand for places from the school's local community.

The number of children resident within the school's catchment area has increased in recent years and, for the last 3 years, the number of first preferences for the school has exceeded the 15 places available in the reception class as shown in the following tables:

Year	Reception Places Available	Number of Children Resident in the Catchment Area
2010	15	74
2011	15	98
2012	15	108
2013	15	91*

\*On 3 April 2013

Reception Admissions	Number of First Preferences
2010	7
2011	22
2012	24
2013	25*

\*On 3 April 2013

In order to accommodate children resident in the school's catchment area for whom there was no other schools with vacancies within a reasonable distance, the Local Authority, in agreement with the school, agreed additional places over the school's published admission number for September 2011 and 2012 and has agreed admission of up to 30 children for 2013.

This proposal, which is fully supported by the Headteacher and Governing Body of the school, is made to address the pattern of parental preference in recent years and to provide sufficient places for the local community at a school within a reasonable distance. The

benefit to the school and the local community is that it will be able to provide more places for families who seek admission at the normal point of entry to the school whilst continuing to provide an outstanding education as a 1 form of entry primary school.

- (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;

The school is a Community School and is maintained by the Local Authority. Admissions are subject to the Local Authority's determined admission arrangements and oversubscription criteria.

- (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).

Ash Grove Primary School & Nursery is a successful school, achieving an “Outstanding” category from Ofsted at the latest inspection in March 2013

Originally operating as a 1.5 form of entry primary school, Ash Grove had an intake at the normal point of entry of 47 pupils up until 2005. It was subsequently reduced to a 25 intake following a review of school places undertaken by the former Cheshire County Council. A further reduction in the admission number was made in 2011 taking the school to an intake of only 15 places for admission at the normal point of entry to the school (reception class) and operating as a half form of entry primary school with an overall capacity of 105 pupil places.

To facilitate this reduction in capacity, classrooms were converted for alternative use by the school and a temporary Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) was located at the school, which has since been relocated. The Local Authority is proposing to reintroduce the classrooms and increase the school’s net capacity from 105 pupil places (half form of entry) to 210 pupil places (one form of entry) with an intake of 30 pupils into the reception class from 2014.