



STATUTORY PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO MAINTAINED SCHOOL

(School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013)

Local Authority Proposal

1. School and local authority details

Manor Park School and Nursery
Manor Park North
Knutsford
WA16 8DB

Manor Park School and Nursery is a Community School maintained by
Cheshire East Borough Council,
Westfields,
Middlewich Road,
Sandbach,
Cheshire, CW11 1HZ

2. Implementation

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

September 2015

3. Proposed Alteration

A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The Current capacity of the school is 210 school places. The proposal is to expand the

school to provide 315 pupil places by increasing the existing capacity by 105 places for implementation by September 2015.

No new site will be required but the proposal requires that the school increases from 7 to 11 class bases. The site is sufficient to expand to accommodate 315 pupil places retaining adequate playground and playing field provision.

Subject to approval the local authority, as the admission authority for the school, will determine an increase in the Published Admission Number from 30 to 45 in April 2014 for September 2015. However, in accordance with statutory requirements, and subject to approval to expand the school, the local authority would admit children above the published admission number into the reception class with effect from September 2014.

4. Need or demand for additional places

A statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

The Knutsford Local Area Partnership (LAP) has 10 primary schools and 1 secondary school covering the areas of Knutsford, Chelford, High Legh, Little Bollington, Nether Alderley and Peover Superior. The total primary school capacity across the LAP is 1684 and the current number of reception class places available each year based on the published admission number (PAN) is 241.

Based on the latest data (October 2012 School Census), pupil forecasts for the Knutsford Local Area Partnership (LAP) indicate a shortfall of 174 places across all 10 primary schools by 2018. For school place planning purposes LAPs are broken down into smaller Planning Areas. These planning areas are based on a number of considerations including schools proximity, pattern of parental preferences, feeder schools to high schools and traditional links between the schools themselves. For example, Chelford and Peover Superior primary schools form part of the Holmes Chapel planning area as they are feeder/partner schools for Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School. Nether Alderley is part of the Wilmslow North planning area and is a feeder/partner school to Wilmslow High School.

Manor Park School and Nursery is part of the Knutsford Planning Area which consists of 7 primary schools offering a total of 1442 school places. Based on the October 2012 School Census, pupil forecasts for the Knutsford Planning Area indicate that there will be a significant shortfall of places across the 7 schools of 166 places by 2018, as set out in the table below:

| Knutsford Planning Area | Number on Roll Oct'12 | Forecasts | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 |
| | 1373 | 1422 | 1454 | 1498 | 1531 | 1572 | 1608 |
| Forecast Shortfall | | 20 | -12 | -56 | -89 | -130 | -166 |
| % Spare Places | | 1% | -1% | -4% | -6% | -9% | -11% |

The above indicated shortfall excludes any level of operational surplus (the level of spare capacity intended to accommodate reasonable journey times to school, some degree of parental choice and flexibility to allow for mid-year entrants). As an indication, a 4% level of operational surplus for this planning area would require an additional 58 pupil places for the same period in 2014.

| Knutsford Planning Area | Number on Roll Oct'12 | Forecasts | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 |
| | 1373 | 1422 | 1454 | 1498 | 1531 | 1572 | 1608 |
| Forecast Shortfall including 4% Operational Surplus. | | -38 | -70 | -113 | -146 | -187 | -223 |
| % Spare Places | | -3% | -5% | -8% | -10% | -13% | -15% |

This proposal is one of two possible expansions proposed for the Knutsford area which, if approved, would provide a total of 175 additional pupil places. The additional accommodation planned for Manor Park School and Nursery would be mainly phased in at the normal point of entry to the school, which is the reception class. On this basis, the school would be operating as a 1.5 form of entry primary school (315 places) with 45 pupil places per year group by 2021. This would increase capacity for this planning area to 1547 pupil places which; when phased in at the normal point of entry into the reception class, would still require an additional 61 places by the same period based on current forecasts. Consultation on a separate proposal to provide an additional 70 pupil places in Mobberley CE Primary to meet this shortfall is also been undertaken.

The changing demographics of Knutsford and the demand for places at the local primary schools indicate that the area has insufficient capacity to accommodate local demand and long term measures are necessary to accommodate this anticipated increase.

5. Objectives of the Proposal and Educational Standards

The overall objective of the proposal is to create additional school places to accommodate the growing demand for places in the local area and address basic need. Manor Park School and Nursery is a successful school, achieving a "Good" category from Ofsted at the latest inspection in January 2013.

The number of children resident in the school's designated catchment area has been increasing in recent years and although the number of first preference applications received would appear to indicate that the school is not oversubscribed the school usually receives a number of late requests for places after the initial offer date and by the start of term in September has usually reached or exceeded the 30 places available.

| Reception Admissions | PAN | Catchment Area Data – Reception Admissions | Number of First Preferences |
|----------------------|-----|--|-----------------------------|
| 2011 | 30 | 69 | 20 |
| 2012 | 30 | 84 | 25 |
| 2013 | 30 | 71 | 17 |
| 2014 | 30 | 78* | 32* |

*at 4.March 2014

Due to a shortage of places in the Knutsford area and to ensure that local children could access a school place within a reasonable distance from their home address.

6. Effect on other Educational Establishments in the Area

The local authority has held meetings with headteachers of the primary schools in this planning area on 31 October 2012, 20 December 2012, 10 May 2013 and 8 October 2013. When identifying the schools for expansion consideration was given to a number of issues including, the nature of the site and whether it can accommodate an expansion, the extent to which the school serves its community, the schools ability to deliver a full range of curriculum and social experiences and the latest Ofsted inspection.

Cheshire East Council then undertook an informal consultation which was implemented between 14 January 2014 and 11 February 2014. Feedback from the consultation was presented to the Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services and Rural Affairs at a meeting on 31 March 2014 where a decision was taken to issue public notices. All documentation, reports and minutes of the Council meetings can be accessed the Council's website.

http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school_organisation.aspx

7. Project costs and Value for Money

A statement of the estimated project costs and indication of how these will be met, including long term value for money will be achieved.

The authority believes that to provide long term value for money it is right to expand schools with permanent accommodation where possible. Permanent expansion provides new facilities providing reassurance to parents and providing children with the most favourable good quality learning environment.

The proposed expansion of **Manor Park School and Nursery** to increase the school's capacity to 315 pupil places and 1.5 forms of entry (FE) is being funded from the Government's Targeted Basic Need Programme and 2014/2015 Capital Maintenance Grant. A feasibility study has been undertaken and the project costs are anticipated as £1,050,000. Should the expansion not be approved any funding secured under the Targeted Basic Need programme will have to be returned to the Education Funding Agency.

Confirmation of a successful Targeted Basic Need bid for the expansion of Manor Park School and Nursery was received from Education Funding Agency on 1 August 2013.

Objections and comments

Within 4 weeks from the date of publication of this proposal i.e by **Wednesday 14 May 2014** 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