



DISLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION PROPOSAL

**Consultation
14 September 2016- 12 October 2016**

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

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What are we consulting on?

We are consulting on a proposal to expand Disley Primary School, taking the school from 210 to 280 pupil places. This would facilitate an increase from 30 to 40 pupils per year group.

The proposal, if agreed, would involve increasing the accommodation at Disley Primary school by two extra classrooms. This would involve a newly constructed classroom at first floor level and the re-modelling of an existing wing of the school to create an additional teaching space.

Why Disley Primary School?

Disley Primary School is a Cheshire East community school rated “Good” by Ofsted at the last inspection in November 2011. Until 2008 Disley Primary had a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 45 children per year group and accommodated 315 pupils. The school was reduced to 30 PAN, 210 pupils, under Cheshire County Council’s Transforming Learning Communities (TLC) initiative. Until more recently, this school been able to accommodate the children of Disley but increasing demand means that changes are needed and therefore this proposal would increase the school back to nearer its former capacity

If some Disley children cannot attend Disley Primary School in the future, consideration will have to be given to where local children could attend. The next nearest alternative Cheshire East schools for pupils to attend are over 4 miles away, as shown in table 5 below.

There are other schools in Derbyshire and Stockport and surplus places in these have been considered. The number on roll at Hague Bar Primary, for example, is forecast to be oversubscribed, whereas Newtown Primary is forecast to have some surplus capacity. High Lane Primary and Brookside Primary are also forecast to have some surplus places. Cheshire East parents would be able to apply for places at these schools if this was their preference although Cheshire East Council would remain responsible for finding residents a school place if their school choices were unsuccessful.

New housing has the potential to increase demand for all these schools and, in so doing, reduce the number of surplus places currently forecast to be available in the future. As Disley Primary is a popular school, this could affect admissions to this school requiring children to travel to schools in other areas.

Why are you being consulted?

The purpose of this consultation exercise is to ensure that the Local Authority can take into account your feedback on the expansion proposal before deciding whether to proceed. This consultation document therefore provides information about the rationale for change and invites you to feedback your views over a four week period.

It is really important to us that you let us have your views. Please read the information below and then send us your comments. Our contact details are provided at the end of this consultation document.

Why is this change needed?

As the Strategic Commissioner of School Places, Cheshire East Council has a statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places for children resident in its area. The latest pupil forecasts indicate a need for more primary school places in Disley village due to new housing and increasing demand in the area of the school.

The data shown in the table below shows a forecast shortfall for Disley Primary School over the five year forecasting period of 42 pupil places based on current patterns of parental preference, new housing pupil yields and allowing for a level of operational surplus, which is intended to facilitate admission mid year, some degree of parental choice and reasonable journey times to school.

Table 1 - Forecast shortfall for Disley Primary School

Disley Primary – Pupil Place Forecasts Shortfall (-) or Surplus Places (+)					Disley Primary – Pupil Place Forecasts Including 2% operational surplus.				
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-27	-45	-45	-47	-42	-31	-49	-49	-51	-46

Data Source – October 2015 Based Forecasts

The approved housing developments in the area of the school that have been included in the pupil forecasts, and which have informed the need for expansion of the village primary school, are shown in the table that follows. The estimated number of school aged children from this new housing is referred to in the table as the 'pupil yield'¹

¹ Pupil yields are derived from the number of new houses with 2 or more bedrooms planned for the development and to this is applied a formula to produce a pupil yield. The formula is number of 2+bedroomed houses multiplied by 0.19 to give a primary school yield and the number of 2+bedroomed houses multiplied by 0.15 to give a secondary school yield. Housing developments and pupil yields as at April 2016.

Table 2 – Pupil Yield from new housing developments

Housing Development	Catchment Area School	Number of Houses	Total Pupil Yield	Pupil Yields Included in Forecasts	Post 2021 Pupil Yield (Not included in Forecasts)
Fibrestar	Disley Primary School	121	22	10	0 (12 included in 2014 forecasts)
Land at Redhouse Lane	Disley Primary School	39	7	7	0
Total		160	29	17	0

The development at Fibrestar has already commenced and as at March 2016, 86 of the 121 houses had been completed.

Increased demand from new housing and the changing demographics in the area have resulted in an increase in the number of children resident within Disley Primary School's catchment area and the number of reception class applications that it receives, both of which exceed the current capacity and planned intake to the school of 30 reception class places.

Table 3 – Number of catchment children and reception class applications

Admission Year	Number of Children Resident in the Catchment Area.	First Preferences for Reception Places
2013	45	36
2014	43	35
2015	43	37
2016	50	40

Figures as at August 2016 January

2016.

In order to accommodate the increasing number of requests for reception class places, the school has admitted above its Published Admission Number of 30 places since September 2013 and has admitted more children mid year due to demand, as shown below:

Table 4 – School census data

School Census Count	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
Oct-15	33	37	35	29	31	27	23	215
Jan-16	34	38	35	31	31	28	24	221

The Published Admission Number (PAN) confirms the number of children to be admitted into the reception class at the normal point of entry to the school. This extra capacity if approved would facilitate an increase in the PAN from 30 to 40, allowing for 10 extra reception class admissions each year.

The PAN for September 2017, which was determined by Cabinet on 9 February 2016, is 30. Admissions above the determined PAN are permitted under the School Admissions Code if the admission authority decides that it can accommodate additional pupils in any year group. Should this proposal be approved, the admission authority would be in a position to admit above the 30 PAN for September 2017 and then determine the higher PAN of 40 for September 2018 reception intake and subsequent years.

The geographical location of Disley Primary in Cheshire East is fairly unusual in that there are no other Cheshire East schools within walking distance. For example, Kettleshulme is the next nearest Cheshire East school but this is over 4 miles away and is not on a direct public transport route. The journey is by hilly, country roads that are sometimes inaccessible during winter months.

Alternatively, pupils could attend primary schools in Poynton, but again, there is no direct public transport route which can lead to long journey times. The table below shows the three nearest Cheshire East schools to Disley together with the distances measured using the post code address points of each school – therefore school to school. As the Disley catchment area residents live in the area surrounding their local primary school, distances for families will vary according to where they live in relation to the primary school.

Table 5 – Next Nearest Cheshire East Primary Schools

Order	School	Walking Distance
1	Kettleshulme St James' Church of England Primary	4.291
2	Worth Primary School	5.038
3	Vernon Primary School	5.163

Consideration has also been given to the availability of places at schools in the neighbouring authorities of Derbyshire and Stockport. The table below shows those schools that are below the 2 mile statutory walking distance ² using school to school distances as aforementioned.

² The statutory walking distance is defined in law as 2 miles for pupils aged under the age of 8 , and 3 miles for those aged 8 and above, although [Cheshire East's Transport Policy](#) includes a variation to the distance limit for primary pupils.

Table 6 – Next nearest neighbouring Local Authority primary schools.

School	Home LA	Walking Distance
Newtown Primary School	Derbyshire	1.318
Hague Bar Primary School	Derbyshire	1.435
High Lane Primary School	Stockport	1.746
Brookside Primary School	Stockport	1.750

Information from Derbyshire and Stockport local authorities has been requested in relation to surplus places in these schools and any plans for change to their capacity in the future to assess the potential availability of school places should the decision be taken not to expand Disley Primary School. The number on roll at Hague Bar Primary (Ofsted rated 'Good') is forecast to be oversubscribed and Newtown Primary (Ofsted rated 'Good') is forecast to have some surplus capacity. High Lane Primary (Ofsted rated 'Good') and Brookside Primary (Ofsted rated 'Good') are also forecast to have some surplus places. There are currently no plans for expansion at these schools. Cheshire East parents would be able to apply for places at these schools if this was their preference although Cheshire East Council would be responsible for finding its residents a school places if their school choices were unsuccessful.

How would the Local Authority fund this proposed school expansion?

The proposed expansion, if approved, would be funded through basic need capital grant and section 106 housing developer contributions. Basic need funding is provided to local authorities to support their capital requirement for providing new pupil places by expanding existing maintained schools, free schools or academies, and by establishing new schools. Section 106 education funding contributions are those agreed with new housing developers specifically to fund the additional pupil places needed due to the new development. In accordance with the Cheshire East Council's Constitution - Finance and Contract Procedure Rules, financial approval of this scheme will be sought at Cabinet as a fully funded supplementary capital estimate.

TIMESCALES

There are 4 statutory stages to expanding a school as follows:

1. Publication
2. Representation
3. Decision
4. Implementation.

Although there is no statutory "pre publication" consultation period there is a strong expectation that schools and Local Authorities will consult interested

parties in developing their proposals. It is anticipated that the programme for the implementation of any change would be:

14 September 2016 to 12 October 2016	4 week Consultation period.
November 2016	Meeting of the Council's Portfolio Holder for permission to issue Public Notices
December 2016 to January 2017	4 week Representation period
February 2017	Cabinet / School Organisation Sub Committee decision
September 2017	Implementation

(actual dates to be confirmed following consultation.

How can you contribute to the decision-making process?

Before any decisions can be taken, the Local Authority would like to hear your views. All feedback received during the consultation period will be considered before a decision is taken on whether to proceed with the proposal. The best way to respond is to complete our electronic survey, which can be accessed on the Council's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk. Alternatively you can complete the feedback form which can be accessed on the Council's website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk , submit your comments by e-mail to: SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk or in writing to:

Cheshire East Borough Council,
School Organisation and Capital Strategy Team,
Floor 7, C/O Municipal Building,
Earle Street,
Crewe CW1 2BJ,

Please Note: Individual queries received during the consultation period will not receive a direct response, but will be addressed in the consultation summary produced at the end of the process and published online for all interested parties.

All responses to this consultation will be collated and presented to the Council's Portfolio Holder at the end of the consultation period.

The implementation of an agreed expansion proposal would be subject to the necessary planning and Section 77 (School Standards and Framework Act 1998) approvals, as appropriate.