

WORTHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Local Authority Proposal for Prescribed Alterations (expansion) in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

These Regulations set out the procedure that must be followed by LAs where the physical expansion of a school is proposed.

Stage 1

Informal consultation with interested parties. Whilst Stage 1 is not prescribed, there is a strong expectation that schools and LAs will consult interested parties when developing the proposal prior to publication, as part of their duty under public law to act rationally and take into account all relevant considerations.

Stage 2

The publication of a statutory notice which begins Stage 3

Stage 3

The representation period, which must last for 4 weeks.

Stage 4

The final stage is Determination by Trafford's Executive.

The Full Proposal

Trafford Council (The Local Authority (LA)) proposes the expansion of:

Worthington Primary School (3582022)
Worthington Road
Sale
M33 2JJ

from a 1.5 form entry (45 pupils per cohort) to a 2 form entry (60 pupils per cohort) primary school with effect from 1st September 2021. Worthington Primary School is a Community School.

This announcement represents Stage 2 of the statutory process that must be followed when the Local Authority proposes the physical expansion of a school.

Objectives

The Local Authority has a duty, set out in the Education Act 1996, to ensure sufficient school places for children who live within its area. Trafford has seen a significant increase in the number of children resident in the area overall and in particular in the Sale East area.

Schools in the Sale East planning area are significantly oversubscribed particularly in upper year groups a result of movement into the area outside the normal admission round. At 23rd March 2020, every primary school in Sale East had reached its published admission number in every year group, except in the reception year group where only 3 schools (2 voluntary aided schools and 1 community school) had vacancies, and a number of schools had admitted children above the published admission number to their maximum physical capacity in order to ensure sufficient places. The LA now proposes the expansion of Worthington Primary School. Since the proposal is made to meet the expected increase in families living in the local area it is not anticipated that the expansion will adversely affect any other schools within the area.

Need or demand for additional places

There are several factors contributing to the growth in demand for primary school places in the Sale East area and in Trafford as a whole;

Housing Developments - There have been some considerable developments in the Borough with a significant number of smaller developments in Sale East at Broad Road, Cross Street; and Northenden Road.

Outstanding Schools

Primary Schools in Trafford are among the best in the country and comparative information is easily available for parents. Excellent schools combined with housing developments and good transport links are attracting families moving to the area for work.

Consultation

On the 28th January 2018 Trafford's Executive determined the 2020 admission arrangements which included a proposal to combine the catchment areas of Templemoor Infant School, Moorlands Junior School and Worthington Primary School in order to prioritise any future schools places for children resident in the area:

"The LA continues to consider schools for expansion in accordance with the sufficiency of places in each area and the feasibility of the schools available. Any additional places created in the combined area in the future would be prioritised for those children living in the combined catchment area"

The School Admissions Code requires that LAs **must** consult at least the governing body of the school where it proposes either to increase or keep the same PAN. Where possible, Trafford LA extends this consultation to include all state funded schools in Trafford, neighbouring LAs, relevant parents and other groups with an interest. Therefore the proposal

to increase the PAN from 45 to 60 at Worthington Primary School, was included in Trafford's consultation process for the 2021 admission arrangements and subsequently determined on 25 February 2018.

Subsequently the LA initiated informal consultation (Stage 1 of the statutory process), on the physical expansion of the School, with parents, staff, and residents. This informal consultation period began on Wednesday 27th November 2019, with an open meeting for pupils, staff and residents and was extended further into the community by including the usual Town and Country Planning consultation requirements. The meeting, to look at, and comment on, the proposed plans was well attended and officers and architects were available to discuss the proposal and answer any questions. The proposal was generally well received especially since the improved facilities would benefit existing pupils in the future, particularly by removing the need for mixed age classes. A topic raised by residents attending the consultation evening was the impact of increased traffic as a result of to the expansion.

The comments from the informal consultation, and those that were received thereafter, were reviewed by the design team. As a result, the plans were amended in order to address Planning officer's concerns regarding the external appearance of the extension, particularly the roof design and fenestration detailing (the design and placing of windows). The planning application was submitted and validated on 3rd December 2019 and approved, following the required consultation process, on 6th March 2020. The application number is 99502/FUL/19 and full details, including the School's travel plan, can be viewed on Trafford's Website [Worthington Primary School Planning Application](#)

School capacity

The current published admission number for Worthington Primary School is 45. This allows for a maximum number of pupils on roll of 315. The anticipated number of pupils on roll at Worthington Primary School from September 2021 is 360. This to include 15 additional children in Reception and 15 additional pupils in Years 5 and 6 in order to accommodate families moving into the area. An additional 15 pupils will be admitted in every subsequent reception cohort. It is expected that the School will reach the maximum of 420 pupils by September 2023.

Alteration description

The alteration requires the erection of a two storey extension to the south elevation to form four additional classrooms with associated cloakroom, stores and toilets. Windows are proposed to the front, side and rear elevations. As well as linking into the main school building, external entrances are also proposed to the front, south side and rear elevations.

The proposed extension is to accommodate an increase in children due to be attending the school as a result in an increase from 1.5 forms of entry to 2 forms of entry, as planned by Trafford Council.

The proposal also includes changes to the layout of the existing disabled car parking bays and servicing area and a new bin store is proposed within the service area. The existing children's cycle and scooter park is also proposed to be relocated further south to make way for the proposed extension.

The application also includes the installation of new 2m and 2.4m high black railings and gates along part of the front boundary of the site and 1.5m high light grey railings within the site, which would match the existing railings along the front boundary and within the site.

Project costs

On 24th June 2019 Trafford's Executive Committee agreed £2M basic need funding to take Worthington Primary School from 1.5 FE to 2FE.

Education Standards

In December 2014 the school was judged to be good by Ofsted Inspectors. In January 2019 Ofsted carried out a short inspection and confirmed that the School continues to be good. The Inspector went on to report that whilst the leadership team had maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection, evidence gathered during the short inspection indicated that the School had improved significantly overall. The Inspection found that Senior leaders, members of the governing body and staff successfully drive lasting enhancements to the quality of the school's work. These factors demonstrate the School's commitment to ensuring that education standards are maintained. A full inspection was then undertaken where Ofsted Inspectors once again confirmed that the School was good in all categories.

Extended services

The proposed expansion will not affect the provision of the School's extended services.

Travel and Accessibility

- The site benefits from being highly accessible on foot with the existing pedestrian infrastructure providing access to a wide residential catchment of Sale and Sale Moor.
- The site also benefits from being accessible by cycle, due to its proximity to existing local and national cycle routes.
- The site is well located to encourage journeys by bus for staff via a number of services available in the immediate vicinity of the site.
- The School is implementing a range of measures to reduce the reliance on the private car.
- The School Travel Plan aims to make children's journeys to and from school safer and enable parents and children to choose walking, cycling and even public transport as a safer, healthier alternative.

Implementation

The proposal will be implemented from 1st September 2021.

Objections and comments

Within four weeks from the date of the publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to:

Marilyn Golding,
School Admissions Service Manager,
Waterside House
Waterside,
Sale,
M33 7ZF

Or by email to school.admissions@trafford.gov.uk

All comments must be received by 11 June 2020.