



CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSALS TO RELOCATE LIGHTHORNE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL TO A NEW SITE, INCREASE CAPACITY AND ESTABLISH SPECIALIST RESOURCED PROVISION.

Introduction

This consultation is being undertaken to advise you of proposals concerning Lighthorne Heath Primary School, and to invite you to tell us what you think of the proposals. This is part of a statutory consultation process that Warwickshire County Council is managing in partnership with the school's Governing Body. The proposal is:

- 1) To increase the capacity of Lighthorne Heath Primary School from 91 pupils to 420 pupils (two form entry). This will involve the relocation of the existing school to a new site on a nearby housing development.
- 2) To establish educational provision for children with special educational needs in the form of resourced (specialist) provision for up to 14 primary aged pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs or Communication and Interaction needs. The specific type of need that the provision will be focusing on is still to be determined.

Background

3000 homes have been approved in Lighthorne Heath on the Upper Lighthorne development with construction and occupation of the houses underway. It is anticipated the development will generate circa three forms of entry (630 pupils) over the medium to long term build out of the development.

The Upper Lighthorne housing development has a 2.8 hectare site safeguarded for primary education. Lighthorne Heath Primary School's existing site is located circa half a mile from the Upper Lighthorne new school site. The existing school site is not big enough to accommodate demand from the new housing development. To ensure sustainability of existing provision, it is proposed to relocate and expand the existing Lighthorne Heath Primary School (rather than open a new primary School).

Existing and new school site location

The existing school site address is:
Lighthorne Heath Primary School
Stratford Road,
Leamington Spa
CV33 9TW

The school is currently located within a predominantly residential area and is accessed from Ash Path road. The site accommodates the Main School Building and a family centre. Lighthorne Heath Primary School is 0.5FE and also accommodates Nursery pupils.

Key
New Site Boundary
Existing Site



In order to meet forecast demand and build on the local offer of specialist resourced provision (SRP), the local authority is continuing the development of SRP's across the county whereby pupils, who are able to access a mainstream curriculum, can have their needs met and benefit from being located within a mainstream school environment. The main growth and investment continues to be in specialist provision for pupils with communication and interaction needs and social, emotional and mental health difficulties.

There are currently 16 SRP's attached to mainstream primary provision in Warwickshire – 2 in North Warwickshire, 5 in Nuneaton & Bedworth, 5 in Rugby, 1 in Warwick and 3 in the Stratford on Avon area.

The Proposal

1) To increase the capacity of Lighthorne Heath Primary School to 420 pupils.

Lighthorne Heath Primary School is currently a half form entry primary school, with an Ofsted rating of Good, with 91 places for children aged 4-11. The school also has a 15 place nursery providing places for children aged 3-4 years.

It is proposed to increase the number of places for children aged 4-11 from 91 to 420 places.

It is proposed to build a new school building on the Upper Lighthorne development as two form entry (420 places) ensuring scope remains to expand the school to three forms of entry when required.

It is proposed that the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school will be initially set at 30 for September 2025 and subsequently increased in line with demand from the development. The PAN for the school will be set through the Local Authority's consultation process for the determination of Admission Arrangements for Maintained Schools.

Lighthorne Heath Primary School currently has a nursery and the new school building would include accommodation for additional early years places.

2) To establish specialist resourced provision at Lighthorne Heath Primary School.

Warwickshire County Council is proposing to establish a specialist resourced provision for up to 14 primary aged pupils diagnosed with social, emotional & mental health or communication and interaction needs. The exact focus of the provision is still to be determined. All pupils attending the specialist resourced provision will have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). These pupils will benefit from accessing education at a mainstream primary school, where appropriate, through a flexible approach, tailored and adapted to their needs.

Admissions to the specialist resourced provision follow a different procedure from that operating for the rest of the school and places will be allocated through the Warwickshire County Council High Needs Provision Panel.

Why is this provision being proposed?

Warwickshire County Council have identified a need for specialised provision across the county, that offers a bridge between mainstream and specialist provision, and have targeted sites that can widely serve the community to provide support to children.

Additional staff will be employed, and the staff of the specialist resourced provision will be skilled and trained practitioners in supporting children with SEND needs.

Building consequences

The new school building will be designed in line with the Department for Education accommodation guidelines providing general teaching classrooms, hall/dining space, learning resource areas and hard and soft external play areas. Additional accommodation will be provided for the nursery and the specialist resourced provision.

A planning application will need to be submitted for the new school. Further information relating to the proposed layout of the new school will be provided in the planning application.

What is the proposed timetable?

- 8th December 2023: The County Council's Portfolio Holder for Education & Learning gave approval for the proposal to go out for consultation
- 26th February – 22nd March 2024: A 4-week consultation with parents and other interested stakeholders to take into account the views expressed regarding the proposals.

- 9th May 2024: If Cabinet agree to the proposals, a recommendation for approval of the required Capital funding will be submitted to Council on 14th May 2024. If Council approve the funding requirements, the decision will be implemented during academic year 2025/26.

Have Your Say...

As an integral part of this process, we are inviting you to take part in this consultation. We welcome your views on the proposed changes raised and all viewpoints will be taken into account as part of the decision-making process.

Feedback can be given in the following ways:

- Online: by completing the consultation survey <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/>
- By Email: schoolorganisation@warwickshire.gov.uk
- In writing: Access to Education, Warwickshire County Council, Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4RL.

You can request a paper copy of the survey by telephone (01926 742058) or email (schoolorganisation@warwickshire.gov.uk) and return it to the postal address above. You can also request an alternative format this way.

Deadline for comments is **22nd March 2024**.

Following the end of the consultation we shall publish the results and this may include quotes of comments which will be anonymous. If you reply to an anonymous survey then no personal details will be captured. If you would like further information, visit our website:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/privacy or contact our Customer Service Centre on 01926 410410