

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	The enlargement of Holbeach Primary School: Nursery provision and play space arrangements		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward			
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People Executive Director Resources and Regeneration Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date:	22 October 2014

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the work undertaken to agree the provision to be made at Holbeach Primary school for nursery pupils and to maximise the play space to be provided once the school is enlarged to 3 forms of entry in September 2015.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This report fulfils the Mayor's request for a further report confirming nursery provision and play space arrangements.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Mayor and Cabinet are recommended to note the report.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 The proposals within this report are consistent with 'Shaping Our Future: Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy' and the Council's corporate priorities. In particular, they relate to the Council's priorities regarding young people's achievement and involvement, including inspiring and supporting young people to achieve their potential, the protection of children and young people and ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of excellent services to meet the needs of the community.
- 4.2 The Local Authority has a duty to ensure the provision of sufficient places for pupils of statutory age and, within financial constraints, accommodation that is both suitable and in good condition.
- 4.3 In aiming to improve on the provision of facilities for primary education in Lewisham which are appropriate for the 21st century, the implementation of a successful primary places strategy will contribute to the delivery of the

corporate priority Young people's achievement and involvement: raising educational attainment and improving facilities for young people through partnership working.

- 4.4 It supports the delivery of Lewisham's Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP), which sets out the Council's vision for improving outcomes for all children and young people, and in so doing reducing the achievement gap between our most disadvantaged pupils and their peers. It also articulates the objective of improving outcomes for children with identified SEN and disabilities by ensuring that their needs are met.

5. Background

- 5.1. Holbeach Primary School is a 2FE primary school located in Primary Place Planning Locality 3 (Central Lewisham, Brockley & Telegraph Hill) .It was one of the first schools to admit additional pupils, offering 90 Reception places in 2008 and 2009. Demand has continued to rise in the area and consequently a consultation was held in autumn 2013 and spring 2014 on a proposal to enlarge the school to 3FE.
- 5.2 At the meeting of Mayor & Cabinet held April 9th 2014, the Mayor agreed the proposal to enlarge Holbeach Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2015 and requested a further report be received confirming nursery provision and play space arrangements.
- 5.3 Following the Mayor's decision, a further series of workshops was arranged to finalise the design proposals. The school was represented by the Governors, the Executive Headteacher and the Head of School. The meetings were chaired by the Head of Education Infrastructure and were supported by the scheme architects and project manager.
- 5.4 A number of options were discussed and developed in the course of those meetings.
- 5.5 Pre-Application meetings have been held with planning officers including the conservation officer, who has also been the point of contact with English Heritage.
- 5.6 The discussions centred around ways of maintaining nursery provision, maximising play space and developing an appropriate landscaping scheme.
- 5.7 After consideration of options to retain the nursery on site, it was agreed that this would mean that the site was over-developed and would have an impact on the amount of play space available.
- 5.8 It was agreed that the nursery should be re-located to the Early Years centre at Ladywell where space and improved facilities are available. The nursery moved in the summer holidays after a short programme of re-decoration and refurbishment. It is proposed that the nursery should stay at this location until the space proposed as part of the development of the Catford Dog Stadium is handed over.

- 5.9 The proposals agreed by Governors for the development of the school to 3 forms of entry include 2 play decks, on top of the Early Years building and on top of the dining hall. These proposals have been discussed with Planners who have paid particular attention to sight lines and privacy.
- 5.10 The landscaping has been carefully designed to create a variety of spaces for active and quieter play. Planting schemes have been designed to increase bio-diversity but to be low maintenance. All proposals have been discussed and agreed with Governors.
- 5.11 A pre-application consultation meeting was held at the school to which residents in the consultation area and parents were invited. The proposals were generally well received.
- 5.12 A Planning Application number DC/14/89225 has been submitted which requests permission for the following work:
- "Expansion of Holbeach Primary School, Doggett Road, SE6 comprising the demolition of existing single storey extensions and internal alteration and refurbishment of the main school building; erection of single storey extension with rooftop play deck to northern elevation; erection of single storey classroom building with rooftop play space; re-configuration of accesses including new main entrance from Nelgarde Road; and associated landscape and external works."
- 5.13 The planning determination period is 8 weeks and will include further consultation with nearby residents.
- 5.14 Governors will continue to be involved in the process through tender interviews. There will also need to be joint planning to ensure that the school is able to function satisfactorily during the anticipated period of intensive development.
- 5.15 The Governing Body discuss the programme at their meetings and have recently raised a number of queries about the timeline and scope of the programme. These are currently being addressed by the Project Manager and the Employer's Agent.
6. Financial implications
- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report
- 6.2 Revenue Financial Implications
All revenue costs from the expanded school will be met from the resources of the Dedicated Schools Grant.
7. Legal Implications
- 7.1 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a general duty on local authorities to ensure that there are sufficient schools to provide primary and secondary school education. The Act also gives powers to local

authorities alter school premises including nursery facilities and making improvements, extensions or additions to the premises.

7.2 There are no direct legal implications arising out of this Report.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

8.1 There are no Crime and Disorder Implications arising from this report

9. Equalities Implications

9.1 This report supports the delivery of the Council's Equalities programme by ensuring that all children whose parents/carers require a place in a Lewisham school will be able to access one. An Equalities Impact Assessment was prepared in support of the proposal to enlarge Holbeach School and the relocation of the nursery class off site at the Ladywell Early Years Centre.

10. Environmental Implications

10.1 Every effort will be made to enhance rather than detract from school environments in the solutions to providing additional primary places.

11. Conclusion

11.1 This report summarises the stages which have led to the development of a proposal for the enlargement of Holbeach Primary School in line with the Mayor's commitment. The proposals have been agreed by the Governing Body. Families and residents have had an opportunity to comment before the submission of the Planning Application. There will be further consultation during the determination period.

Background Documents

Children and Young People Select Committee January, 2014

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s26896/06PrimaryAndSecondarySchoolPlacesPlanning29012014.pdf>

Mayor & Cabinet April 9 2014 (including Equalities Impact Assessment)

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MIId=2855&Ver=4>

If there are any queries arising from this report, please contact
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