

<b>MAYOR AND CABINET</b>			
<b>Report Title</b>	Measures to increase the supply of permanent primary school places: St George's C.E. Primary School		
<b>Key Decision</b>	Yes	Item No.	
<b>Ward</b>	Perry Vale		
<b>Contributors</b>	Executive Director for Children and Young People, Executive Director Regeneration & Resources, Head of Law		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date:	December 3 2014

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report informs the Mayor of discussions by the Governing Body of St George's C.E. Primary School and its proposal to enlarge the school from 1 to 2 forms of entry. The enlargement of the school is proposed in order to meet demand for school places in Forest Hill and Sydenham.

## **2. Purpose**

- 2.1 The report requests the Mayor to note the proposal and to agree that works to enlarge St George's CE Primary school should be included in the local authority's capital programme to meet the demand for school places.

## **3. Recommendations**

That the Mayor:

- 3.1 notes that the Governing Body of St George's C.E. Primary School (VA) has proposed that the school should enlarge from 1 to 2 forms of entry from September 2015 subject to the availability of capital funding.
- 3.2 agrees that works to enlarge St George's CE Primary school should be included in the local authority's capital programme to meet the demand for school places, subject to the agreement to the financials set out in the accompanying Part 2 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 school 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.
- 4.5 Since 2008 the Local Authority's capital programme to ensure the delivery of sufficient school places has been governed by the following principle:

*"Ensuring that sufficient places are provided in localities at the right time will take precedence over significant investment in schools where the rectification of conditions and suitability issues will not produce additional places. "<sup>1</sup>*

- 4.6 Dependent upon future central government decisions on capital delivery, it is proposed that the borough's Places Programme will continue to be governed by the following criteria as set out in the 2008 PSfC:
- Provide sufficient places at the right time to meet future needs within and between planning localities in the Borough
  - Improve conditions and suitability of schools in order to raise standards
  - Increase the influence of successful and popular schools
  - Maximise the efficient delivery of education in relation to the size of the school, removing half-form entries and promoting continuity of education
  - Enable school extended services for pupils, parents and communities
  - Optimise the Council's capital resources available for investment.

### **School Organisation Requirements**

- 4.7 The guidance for proposers and decision makers in maintained schools was revised in January 2014 with the publication of School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013. The regulations came into force on 28 January 2014.
- 4.8 The new School Organisation regulations have been introduced to support the government's aim of increasing school autonomy and reducing bureaucracy. The guidance on the regulations can be found at [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/278418/School\\_Organisation\\_Guidance\\_2014.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/278418/School_Organisation_Guidance_2014.pdf)

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<sup>1</sup> Primary Strategy for Change (PSfC), June 2008

4.9 As a consequence of the changes, governing bodies of all categories of mainstream school can make the following changes to their schools without following a formal statutory process:

- Expansion (enlargement of premises)
- Alteration of upper or lower age limit by up to two years (except for adding and removing a sixth-form) ; and
- Adding boarding provision

4.10 The guidance on the regulations requires governing bodies to ensure that

- They have secured the necessary capital funding
- They have identified suitable accommodation and sites
- They have secured planning permission and/or agreement on the transfer of land where necessary
- They have the consent of the site trustees or other land owner where the land is not owned by the governing body
- They have the consent of the religious authority (as required); and
- The admissions authority is content for the published admissions number (PAN) to be changed where this forms part of the expansion plans, in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

4.11 The regulations also state that, although governing bodies are no longer required to follow a statutory process, they are nevertheless required to adhere to the principles of public law: they must act rationally; they must take into account all relevant considerations; and they must follow a fair procedure. The department expects that in making the changes set out in 4.9 governing bodies will:

- Liaise with the LA and trustees/diocese (if any) to ensure that, where possible the proposal is aligned with wider place planning/organisational arrangements, and that any necessary consents have been gained; and
- Ensure effective consultation with parents and other interested parties to gauge demand for their proposed change(s) and to provide them with sufficient opportunity to give their views.

4.12 This report sets out how those requirements have been met.

## **5. Alignment of proposal with wider place planning**

5.1.1 Members have received regular reports on the continuing demand for school places. St George's CE Primary School (formerly Christchurch CE Primary) is located in Primary Place Planning Locality 1, Forest Hill & Sydenham. This is an area where demand has exceeded supply since 2009. The school offered a bulge class in 2010 in response to local demand.

5.1.2 Demand has continued to be high. The following table summarises the Schools in the area who have offered additional places since 2008:

School	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
<b>Primary Place Planning Locality 1 Forest Hill &amp; Sydenham</b>							
Adamsrill		√	√	√	√	Expanded	
Christ Church			√				
Dalmain		√	√	√	Expanded		
Eliot Bank					√		
Fairlawn			√			√	
Haseltine					√	YR & Y1	√
Horniman				√			
Kelvin Grove			√	√	Expanded		√
Kilmorie		√	√	√	Expanded	√	
Perrymount			√			√	
Rathfern				√	√		
St Bartholomew's					√	Expanded	
St Michael's						√	
St Will. of York				√			

5.1.3 The majority of places have been added as partial expansions (“bulge” classes)., Since 2012 the authority has used Basic Need allocations to launch a programme to increase the supply of places on a permanent basis, using existing council-owned buildings, developing existing school sites and by taking the opportunity to remove half forms of entry.

5.1.4 Projections are reviewed at least annually as the information on live births, applications to schools and the uptake of places across each year becomes available.

5.1.5 The most recent update indicates that the demand for places will remain high and measures continue to be required to increase the supply of places through a mixture of permanent and temporary enlargements tailored to meet the needs of the area. Figures are set out below.

<b>Primary Place Planning Locality 1 Forest Hill &amp; Sydenham</b>			
Year	Planned Admission Number	Forecast Reception demand	Shortfall
2014/15	943	1059	116 (4 FE)
2015/16	943	1054	111(4 FE)
2016/17	943	1045	102 (3.5.FE)
2017/18	943	1007	64 (2 FE)
2018/19	943	1028	85 (3FE)

5.1.6 The LA is developing options to meet the shortfall across the area. The evaluation of each option includes an assessment of affordability and compliance with local planning conditions. On the basis of this evaluation the LA initiated discussions with the governing body of St George’s and with the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE), who own the site. They agreed readily that a design development process should start with the aim of developing a proposal for the school site to RIBA Stage 2<sup>2</sup> including consultation with parents and stakeholders.

<sup>2</sup> Concept Design, including outline proposals for structural design, building services systems, outline specifications and preliminary cost information along with relevant project strategies in accordance with Design Programme.

- 5.1.7 A cost estimate for the proposal has been included in the forward financial planning of the capital programme. The cost estimate has been revised as the design and proposals for construction methods have developed. It is considered to offer good value for money.
- 5.1.8 Southwark Diocesan Board of Education has agreed that the building proposal is acceptable and can be delivered on its site.

## 5.2 Consultation

- 5.2.1 The school has consulted with parents and local residents through newsletters and meetings. A letter was sent out to parents on 9<sup>th</sup> July inviting their views (Appendix One). 9 responses were received, 8 in favour and 1 against. There have also been one to one discussions. The comments from parents have been overwhelmingly in favour, The written comments from parents are as follows:

*“The building expansion plan would definitely improve the current structures on grounds with modern facilities.”*

*“Expansion leads to developments in all areas”*

*“The growth in population would require more hands to be on deck”*

*“Trust Mrs Constable with employing good quality and experienced staff in order to maintain the high academic and moral standards.*

”

*“Children need education”*

*“I agree it would open the children to better facilities regarding the early years provision’. An after school facility would also be a bonus for us working parents”*

The one parent against commented:

*“With such expansion you lose that ‘small’ community feel.”*

- 5.2.2 The plans for expansion were on display on 16<sup>th</sup> July at the Parents’ Evening and representatives of the local authority and SDBE were there to talk through the proposals for the site and how the school might change as it grew incrementally. Parents were very supportive of the proposal and aware of the potential stress for families who might not otherwise secure a local school place.
- 5.2.3 Further information was included in the start of term school newsletter (attached as Appendix Two).
- 5.2.4 A meeting was held on 10 September 2014 when neighbours and other local residents were invited to view the plans prior to the completion of a Planning Application. The publicity leaflet is attached to this report as Appendix Three. Information boards were displayed in the school hall during an afternoon and evening session, with members of the design team on hand to answer queries. A video projection of a CGI walk-through was also playing during the day. Participants were invited to complete a comment sheet. The exhibition was attended by approximately 30 people, a mixture of school parents,

neighbours and school staff. Whilst there was an understandable concern about the increase in foot and vehicle traffic as the school enlarges, people understood that the school would need to grow to meet the needs of the locality. They liked the proposed style of the building and the development of the landscaping on the site.

- 5.2.5 In addition to consultation with the parents and the local community, the proposals have been discussed with the Design Review Panel on two occasions and their comments are reflected in the recently submitted Planning Application. Ref. No: DC/14/89545
- 5.2.6 The Place Manager has attended meetings of the governing body during the development of the proposal. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the governing body discussed the results of the consultation events set out above. The Governing Body agreed that, subject to the Mayor's agreement to include the capital works in the programme to meet the demand for school places, St George's C.E. Primary should be enlarged from 1 to 2 forms of entry and that it should admit 60 pupils in September 2015. The consultation on admissions for 2016 will be on the basis of a Planned Admission Number of 60 (Appendix Four - Letter from Chair of Governors and extract of the Governing Body minutes).

**6. The following tables summarise how the proposal to enlarge St George's meets national and local criteria.**

<b>National Criteria</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
They have secured the necessary capital funding	The purpose of this report is to secure the necessary capital funding
They have identified suitable accommodation and sites.	It is agreed by planners and SDBE, the site owners that the school site is suitable for expansion
They have secured planning permission and/or agreement on the transfer of land where necessary	There has been close liaison with the Planning Authority during the development of the proposal for enlargement. A planning application has been submitted. There is no requirement to transfer land.
They have the consent of the site trustees or other land owner where the land is not owned by the governing body	St George's CE Primary school is a Voluntary Aided school and the land is owned by the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education. There has been close liaison with the Board during the development of the proposal and they have expressed their support.
They have the consent of the religious authority (as required)	As above
The admissions authority is content for the published admissions number (PAN) to be changed	As a Voluntary Aided school, the Governing Body is the admissions authority for the school. It is content for the published admissions number to be increased to 60. They will include this in the consultation for

<p>where this forms part of the expansion plans, in accordance with the School Admissions Code.</p>	<p>admission arrangements in 2016, and have agreed to vary the admission arrangements in 2015 to admit 60 children.</p> <p>The admission arrangements for 2015 provide for both Foundation and Open Places. 60% of places are offered as Foundation places to pupils who have one or more parents who are faithful and regular worshippers at a Christian church. 40% are offered as Open places to parents who apply for a place knowing that the school aims to provide an education based on Christian principles. In the event of over-subscription the following criteria apply to both categories of places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Looked After Children</li> <li>2) Children who have an exceptional personal or family acute medical or social need for a place at the school</li> <li>3) Children who have a sibling (not Year 6) on the roll at the school on the date of entry of the applicant</li> <li>4) Nearness to the school gate, measured by a straight line using the Council's digitised mapping software</li> </ol>
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<b>Local Criteria</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<p>Provide sufficient places at the right time to meet future needs within and between planning localities in the Borough</p>	<p>The sustained demand for places in the area is set out above (5.1.5)</p>
<p>Improve conditions and suitability of schools in order to raise standards</p>	<p>The proposals for enlargement include works to improve teaching conditions in 2 classrooms and to avoid the need to pass through one room to reach another</p>
<p>Increase the influence of successful and popular schools.</p>	<p>Ofsted undertook a full inspection of the school in June 2011 and judged the school to be "Good with outstanding capacity for sustained improvement" An interim assessment was undertaken in May 2014 which reported that the school's performance had been sustained.. The reports can be accessed through the following link  <a href="http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/100721">:http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/100721</a></p> <p>The school is regularly oversubscribed. A total</p>

	<p>of 103 on-time applications were received for the 30 places available in 2014/15. Of these 42 were first preferences and 15 second. 109 on-time applications were received for entry in 2013.</p> <p>Data from the January census shows that occupancy in Key Stage was 90% in 2012/13 and 93% in 2013/14</p>
Maximise the efficient delivery of education in relation to the size of the school, removing half-form entries and promoting continuity of education	The school is currently 1 form of entry meaning that a relatively high percentage of the school budget is taken by management costs. Expansion to 2 forms of entry will offer greater economies of scale and better value to the Direct Schools Grant.
Enable school extended services for pupils, parents and communities	The proposed security zones in the building will mean that the school can be used out of regular school hours.
Optimise the Council's capital resources available for investment	The cost per place compares well with other permanent enlargements. The majority of the expenditure is for new build rather than backlog maintenance. Other funding streams available for voluntary aided schools will be used where possible to fund aspects of the build.

## 7 Financial implications

7.1.1 In the period 2008/09 to 2016/17 the Government has made £114.95m Basic need grant available. In addition the Council has secured other grants of £18.65m and identified £4.3m of Section 106 monies to support the programme. This makes the total resources available over the period £137.9m. Against these resources, the value of works estimated to be necessary is £157.25m to September 2016: this leaves a shortfall of £19.3m. In the period to September 2019 additional works of £55m are estimated which includes £50m to meet secondary places demand equivalent to two secondary schools.

7.1.2 All projects to deliver additional places in September 2014 and September 2015 can be funded within the funding envelope identified above.

### 7.2 Capital Financial Implications

7.2.1 Budgetary provision for the estimated costs of the expansion of St George's C.E. primary school have been included in the forward planning of the capital programme for the delivery of school places projects to September 2015.

7.2.2 The construction works will provide an additional 30 places in September 2015 rising to a total of 210 additional places over the next 7 years.

7.2.3 The full capital financial implications are set out in the separate Part 2 report.



### 7.3 Revenue Financial Implications

- 7.3.1 The revenue costs of running the fully expanded accommodation will be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant with no burden falling on the General Fund resources of the Council.

## **8 Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The Human Rights Act 1998 safeguards the rights of children in the Borough to educational provision, which the Council is empowered to provide in accordance with its duties under domestic legislation.
- 8.2 Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 obliges each local authority to ensure that there are sufficient primary and secondary schools available for its area i.e. the London Borough of Lewisham, although there is no requirement that those places should be exclusively in the borough. The Authority is not itself obliged to provide all the schools required, but to secure that they are available.
- 8.3 In exercising its responsibilities under section 14 of the Education Act 1996 a local authority must do so with a view to securing diversity in the provision of schools and increasing opportunities for parental choice.
- 8.4 Although St. George's C.E. Primary School is a voluntary aided school and under statute is responsible for building and maintenance of school premises subject to receiving 90% government grant, in this case, as the building work is to enable the expansion of the school to accommodate the pressure on primary school places in the borough and the Council has received Basic Need funding to cover the cost of the building works it is proper for it to go in to the Council's Capital Programme.
- 8.5 Paragraph 4.7 and 4.11 sets out the legal framework for an expansion to a school. The school has consulted with all relevant stakeholders as required under the Regulations. The results are set out at paragraph 5.2.
- 8.6 The Governing Body decision to proceed with the expansion is subject to the Mayor's agreement to include the work to the school in the Council's capital programme. It will be necessary for the Council to enter into a licence with the Governing Body and the Diocese for the Council to carry out the works at the school.
- 8.7 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 8.8 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.9 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

8.10 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:  
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-act-codes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>

8.11 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:

1. The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
2. Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
3. Engagement and the equality duty
4. Equality objectives and the equality duty
5. Equality information and the equality duty

8.12 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:  
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>

8.13 In deciding whether to agree the recommendations of this report, the Mayor must be satisfied that to do so is a reasonable exercise of his discretion on a consideration of all relevant matters and disregarding irrelevancies and having regard to all Guidance that he is statutorily required to consider.

## 9 **Crime and Disorder Implications**

9.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

## 10 Equalities Implications

- 10.1 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.

## 11 Environmental Implications

- 11.1 The proposed scheme will meet BREEAM "Very Good".

## 12 Risk assessment

- 12.1 There are financial risks if insufficient funding is made available to support the delivery of the programme. There are also significant reputational risks to the Council if it does not meet its statutory requirement to ensure sufficient primary school places are made available.

## 13 Conclusion

- 13.1 There is a clear need to expand primary provision to meet demand in the borough and in this locality. The enlargement proposed in this report will provide places in a popular and successful school in an area of high demand.
- 13.2 The Mayor is therefore recommended to note the proposal of the Governing body that St George's CE Primary school should be enlarged from 1 to 2 forms of entry with effect from September 2015 and agree that the necessary building works should be included in the capital programme.

## Background Documents

Guidance on school organisation changes

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/278418/School\\_Organisation\\_Guidance\\_2014.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/278418/School_Organisation_Guidance_2014.pdf)

Summary of demand for school places:

Children and Young People Select Committee January 2014

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

*If there are any queries arising from this report, please contact  
**Margaret Brightman, Place Manager, ext 48034***

<b>Appendix</b>	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education agreement
<b>Appendix One</b>	Letter sent out to parents/carers on 9 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Appendix Two</b>	Newsletter to parents/carers
<b>Appendix Three</b>	Consultation leaflet to parents & community
<b>Appendix Four</b>	Letter from Chair of Governors and extract of the Governing Body minutes

## APPENDIX ONE



**Christ Church School**  
Perry Vale, Forest Hill, London SE23  
2NE  
Telephone: 020 8699 5127  
Fax: 020 8291 6749

**Headteacher: Mrs Geraldine Constable**  
**Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Angela Burton**

9<sup>th</sup> July 2014

### Note to all parents and Carers

#### Proposed expansion of Christ Church School

I am sure that all of you will be aware that there is a high demand for Primary school places in London. Lewisham has experienced a high demand for places since 2008, especially in Forest Hill. Christ Church has already offered one “bulge” class in 2010 as part of the borough’s response to the shortage of places.

Since then the local authority has discussed with the school and with Southwark Diocese whether Christ Church could admit further pupils.

The Governing Body, with the support of the Diocese, has responded that it would not be prepared to take a further bulge class but it would be prepared to consider a permanent enlargement to 2 forms of entry.

The benefits of expansion are many. Firstly, the building and landscaping work will bring many improvements to the learning environment both inside and out. The provision of a brand new Foundation stage Unit will also better support the Early Years curriculum and enable more of our Nursery parents to gain a place in the school. With 50 places on offer in our Nursery, we have only been able to offer a place to 30 children and many have been disappointed in the last 2 years. The outline plan makes use of the existing footprint of the school which means that we will not be losing any outside play space. From a teaching perspective, it also allows for greater collaboration amongst staff allowing them to plan for a year group together. A larger school also secures more funding to support the provision of educational resources within school. In addition, a larger building will allow for the possibility of increasing out of hours provision, which is limited at the moment due to lack of suitable space, this will help to support parents, particularly working parents.

The local authority has engaged a team of architects to look at how the site could be developed. They have visited the school to observe how the current site works and have discussed the Governing Body’s vision of how they want the school to function. You can see the architects’ proposals for the site on display in the school hall. If built, the scheme would be funded by the local authority using government grant.

The Governing Body and the Diocese feel that it is the right time for the school to expand. There are more children in the area we serve and they should have the opportunity to attend a good school like Christ Church. The building proposals support our aims and objectives.

The Governing Body would like to hear your views. **Do you agree with the proposal that Christ Church Primary School should enlarge from 1 to 2 forms of entry?**

If we do enlarge, the most likely timescale is that the school would start to admit 60, rather than 30, children from September 2015. This would then continue each year and the school would be two forms of entry throughout by September 2022.

The building work to provide the additional classes would start in spring 2015 with the creation of a new Early Years and Foundation Unit for our Nursery and Reception children. After that the current nursery building would be demolished and a new hall and classroom block would be built, completing by early 2016. The programme would be completed by landscaping the playground. The proposed works also include some changes to the main building which will give us a better library and improve the temperature control in the upstairs classrooms.

This proposal from the local authority has come at a very important time for the school, as we move forward with renaming in September to become St George's Church of England School. It is a testament to the work of the children, staff, parents and Governors of Christ Church that the Local Authority wishes to invest in the school's future, to enable the benefits of the good education that your children experience to be accessible to a wider group within the community.

You can let us know by completing the attached form and returning it to the school office before the end of term.

The display of the drawings will be available to view in the hall before and after school from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July until the end of term on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Mrs G Constable

Headteacher

On behalf of the Governing Body of Christ Church School

**Do you support the proposal that Christ Church Primary School should enlarge from 1 to 2 forms of entry?**

<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>UNSURE</b>

**We would like to know the reasons for your views as they will help with our future planning**

Welcome back to the new St George's School!

### New Uniform

It has been a great start to our new year with all the children looking very smart in their new school uniform. We are awaiting the order from the suppliers for additional uniform orders and will let you know as soon as the order is in. Please ensure that your child's name is written in their uniform as soon as you get it.

### Renaming Ceremony

Plans are well under way for the Renaming ceremony which will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The Bishop of Southwark will be conducting the service and the new signs and our new mosaics will be blessed at that time. Unfortunately we do not have enough space to invite parents to this service, however, there will be a special exhibition showing the old Christ Church School with photographs and written memories from previous pupils on display and this will be open to parents at the end of the school day.

### School Expansion

**The public consultation took place on Wednesday evening which gave parents and members of the public an opportunity to look at the more detailed plans for the school expansion. These plans will go forward to the local authority with a view to work on the new Foundation stage block starting in the Spring term. During the whole process we will keep you informed of developments and will aim to minimise disruption to the running of the school.**

### Parking outside the school

I have been informed that the Police have successfully prosecuted a parent for illegal parking and driving without due care and attention outside of the school. It is very important that if you do need to drive your children to school you park responsibly and with due care. I would also ask that parents and carers cross at the correct crossing point as Perry Vale is a very busy road.

### Birthday party bags

Birthdays are special family times and the school's policy is not to give out sweets or cakes in school time, however, parents have been allowed to distribute them in the playground if they chose to do so on their child's birthday. Increasingly, however, this practice has become more elaborate with some parents bringing in party bags for the whole class. A number of parents have approached me to say that they have felt under pressure to do the same for their child, at a time when financially they are not in a position to do so. As a school, we would not want any parent to feel uncomfortable in the playground, therefore, from now on parents wishing to do so would have to distribute any gifts off school grounds.

### Nursery Places

There are currently places available in the Nursery. If you, or someone you know, has a child aged 3 or about to turn 3 years of age, please approach the office for an application form or download an application form from the website.

# Christ Church C of E Primary

## A consultation for a new school



### We are pleased to inform you,

as a local resident or parent, of our application for planning consent for the expansion of Christ Church CE Primary School.

Representatives from the London Borough of Lewisham, along with architects from Pollard Thomas Edwards, will be on hand to show you the exciting new plans that have been developed, with the school, including:

**A new 'Pavilion' block for foundation years fronting Westbourne Drive and Church Vale.**

**A new extension to the existing school to replace existing temporary buildings and to allow full expansion from 1 to 2 forms of entry in September 2016.**

We are inviting people living close to the school, as well as the staff and parents to come to the event and discuss the proposals. We welcome and look forward to your attendance.



### Change of school name

The proposed expansion has come at an exciting time in the school's history as the Governing Body, in consultation with Southwark Diocesan Board, Lewisham Local Authority and parents, have voted to rename the school to:

### St George's C of E Primary School

This decision was taken because the original church of Christ Church was deconsecrated many years ago and from that time on the school has been linked to St George's Church. The Governing Body feels that the time is now right to reflect that link in our school name.



**Pollard  
Thomas  
Edwards**



**CHRIST CHURCH  
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 3:30pm - 7:30pm**

**Christ Church CE Primary School, Perry Vale, London, SE23 2NE**