

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Consulting you on a proposal to permanently expand Heavers Farm Primary School

Consultation period: 13 May 2015 to 10 June 2015

This document sets out:

- Information about Heavers Farm Primary School
- Why we need more primary school places in Croydon
- Why we are proposing to expand Heavers Farm Primary School
- The expansion proposal
- How you can give your views
- What happens after the consultation
- The consultation timetable

Heavers Farm Primary School

Heavers Farm Primary school is a Community School located at Dinsdale Gardens SE25 6LT. The school normally admits 3 classes, 90 reception pupils per year, although it will take an additional 30 pupils in September 2015 because of exceptional demand. The proposal is to permanently expand the school from three forms of entry to four forms, thereby increasing its Published Admissions Number from 90 pupils to 120 from September 2016. Heavers Farm has been rated by Ofsted as a good school, providing a good education for its pupils.

Why we need more primary school places in Croydon?

The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient pupil places to meet the current and future demand for pupil places.

Like most London Boroughs, Croydon has been facing an unprecedented growth in demand for places. This is driven by:

- An increase in the number of births – by over 31% in the period from 2001 to 2011
- An increase in the proportion of those born in the borough who need school places five years later.
- A continuing flow of population from Inner London to the Outer London boroughs and a decrease – due to the housing market – in those moving the other way.

Latest forecasts of future need for primary pupil places show a continuing growth in demand for places, although the rate of growth is now slowing.

Why are we proposing to expand Heavers Farm Primary School?

Enlarging a school is an exciting but challenging task. When we are thinking about how to provide additional school places we take account of:

- The popularity and success of the school
- Leadership capacity to ensure that high quality places will be made available
- The suitability of the site
- The location – close to areas of high demand
- Value for money.

Heavers Farm Primary School is a popular and successful school with strong leadership and governance. For 2014 admission, 294 applications were received for the 120, including the 30 additional places through temporary expansion, reception places available. The School is part of a Federation of Heavers Farm and Selsdon Primary Schools and share one governing body.

The expansion proposal

The proposal is to make permanent the temporary class that will be in place in September 2015. This means that construction will take place to enlarge the school site to create extra classes and facilities to accommodate / offer an additional 30 reception pupil places from September 2016. A total of 120 places will be offered to children applying for reception places from September 2016 using the school's normal admissions arrangements. The school will receive additional funding to employ extra teaching staff and meet the extra costs associated with the additional children being admitted at the school. Through the permanent expansion, the school would continue to receive an additional class in reception each year, so that by 2022 the school would have an extra 210 pupils in total, with 120 pupils in every year group - from Reception to Year 6.

In considering the proposed expansion, the Council commissioned a feasibility study, including option appraisal of the school site and the costs involved. The details of the options will be worked out in consultation with the school's representatives, architect / contractor and Council's educational standards team to ensure minimum disruption to existing pupils and high quality learning spaces and facilities that meet the needs of the local community. Once agreement has been reached on the preferred expansion option, traffic impact assessment will be done and planning permission sought.

How you can give your views?

Your views are important to us. We will be holding a public meeting at the school on Thursday, 4 June 2015 from 7pm. At this meeting, representative of the council, the architect/contractor and the school will talk about the proposal and seek your views. You can also:

- Complete the attached questionnaire and put it in the consultation box at the school
- Send your comments to: Denise Bushay, Croydon Council, Schools Organisation & Place Planning Team, Children, Families & Learning, 4th Floor, Zone D, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR9 1EA; or school.org@croydon.gov.uk
- Visit <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/primary-schools/heavers-farm-primary>

What happens after the consultation?

All the feedback we receive will be analysed and a consultation outcomes report produced. This report will be sent to the Council's Cabinet, and Heavers Farm Primary School Leadership Team. The Council's Cabinet will decide, taking account of the pressure on primary places and the consultation feedback, whether to approve the implementation of the proposal.

Consultation timetable

Event	When
Publication of statutory notice	Wednesday, 13 May 2015
Start of formal consultation	Wednesday, 13 May 2015
Public meeting at Heavers Farm Primary School	Thursday, 04 June 2015, 7pm
Deadline for feedback and comments	Monday 10 June 2015
Cabinet decision on proposal	July 2015
Implementation (if approved)	September 2016

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Questionnaire

1. Please tell us who you are – tick all that apply

- Parent or carer of child/children at Heavers Farm Primary School
- Parent or carer of child/children at another school. Which one? _____
- Parent or carer of a child/children not yet of school age _____
- A member of staff at Heavers Farm Primary School _____
- A member of staff at another school. Which one? _____
- A local resident
- Other. Please tell us more _____

2. What is your view of the proposal to expand Heavers Farm Primary School to create places for 30 additional pupils each year?

- Strongly in favour
- In favour
- Not sure
- Not in favour
- Strongly against

3. Please use the space below to add any other comments or views on the proposed expansion of Heavers Farm Primary School.

About You

In order to ensure we collect comments from a broad range of people and families reflective of our community it would be helpful if you could take a moment to complete the section below. Many thanks.

Gender:

Male
Female

Age range:

16-18 19-25 26-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

Ethnicity (which of these describe your ethnic group?):

Asian/Asian British

Bangladeshi
Indian
Pakistani
Chinese
Any other Asian background
(please specify)_____

Other Ethnic Group

Arab
Any other ethnic background
(please specify)_____

Black/African/Caribbean/

Black British
African
Caribbean
Any other Black background
(please specify)_____

White

English/Welsh/Scottish
Northern Irish/British
Irish
Any other White background
(please specify)_____

Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups

White and Asian
White and Black
Caribbean
White and Black African
Any other Mixed/Multiple
Ethnic background
(please specify)_____

Do not wish to declare
ethnic group

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes No

Mobility

Visually impaired

Hearing impaired

Mental health problems

Learning disability

Other (please specify) _____