**Cotton End Primary School**

**Statutory proposal for Prescribed Alterations to expand and relocate Cotton End Primary School**

**Full Proposal Document**

**Name and contact details of the Local Authority or governing body publishing the proposal:**

Bedford Borough Council, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AP.

**Name, address and category of the school**

Cotton End Primary School, 37 High Rd, Cotton End, Bedford MK45 3AA. The school is a Community School

**Proposed implementation date**

Proposed date of implementation is 1 September 2018.

**Description of alteration and Evidence of Demand**

It is proposed that, with effect from the 2018/2019 school year intake, the school should be expanded and its admission number should be permanently increased over time from 15 to 90. The current permanent capacity of the school is 105. the proposed final capacity will be 630. The current number of pupils registered at the school (as January 2017) is 81. The current admission number for the school is 15 and the proposed admission number will eventually be 90. It is likely that the admission number will increase in stages, from 15 to 30 in 2018, from 30 to 60 in 2019 and then from 60 to 90 in 2020

In order to expand the school needs to relocate to a new site opposite the current site. The new site is approximately 0.5 miles from the existing school site.

The expansion and relocation of the school is to meet the needs of a growing school age population in the area. The increase in capacity will ensure that there are sufficient places to this demand. The additional accommodation is required because the existing buildings cannot accommodate more pupils.

**Objectives (including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice)**;

The objective of the proposals is to fulfil the Council’s statutory duties to provide sufficient school places in Bedford Borough. Like many areas in the country, Bedford Borough is experiencing an increase in demand for school places, particularly in Reception classes. The increase in population is due to the housebuilding in the Eastcotts area. There is capacity on the new site for the school to expand up to the 3 forms of entry forecast to be needed.

The school is currently located in Victorian buildings and whilst these have been improved as much as possible, these improvements have been constrained by the site. In moving to a new site the school will have the benefit of modern accommodation designed to deliver a 21st century primary curriculum. The Governing Body are looking to maximise the opportunities the new site gives them, creating an outstanding environment for outdoor learning.  In addition, the new site will provide much needed external green space for play and sports. It is anticipated that the new site will include a Sports Hall, and a tennis court. These would be made available for community use outside school hours and would complement, rather than compete with, existing facilities in the surrounding areas.

As the new site is so close to the existing site, there will be no travel disruption for current staff and pupils. There will be car parking arrangements within the new school grounds which, together with the improvements to the school accommodation that a new build will bring, will mean a better learning and working environment. Improvements to roads and access are part of the overall build proposal.

The Council is experienced in extending schools so that teaching and learning continues without disruption during the construction process. The school is popular and successful. Expansion will give the school a larger budget, which will enable it to have a broader curriculum, with a greater variety of teaching expertise and specialisms; and enable more collaboration and sharing and observation of good practice by year‐group teachers and teaching assistants. It will also mean that pupils will no longer be taught in split age classes.

**Related proposal**

There are no related proposals

**The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area**

The proposal is not believed to have any adverse effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions.

**Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved;**

The total capital cost of the project is £8,000,000 with all costs being met by the Local Authority.

**Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation**

If the proposal to expand and relocate the school goes ahead, a building programme would take place over 2017/18 academic year so that is September 2018 all pupils attending the school will relocate to the new site.

The school could grow incrementally as shown in the table. The school will grow in line with demand from the housing development so that there will be eventually 90 places per year group.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **R** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **TOTAL** |
| 2016 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 105 |
| 2017 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 105 |
| 2018 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 150 |
| 2019 | 60 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 195 |
| 2020 | 90 | 60 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 15 | 15 | 270 |
| 2021 | 90 | 90 | 60 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 15 | 345 |
| 2022 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 60 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 420 |

**Statement on procedure for obtaining copies of this proposal.**

Any person wanting a copy of this proposal can do so by contacting Frances Cox

Bedford Borough Council, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AP or by e-mailing: education@bedford.gov.uk

**Statement on procedure for commenting on the proposal, either to object or support**

Any person or organisation may object or make comments on the proposal can do by sending them to: Colin Foster, Assistant Director – Chief Education Officer, Children’s and Adults’ Services, Bedford Borough Council, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AP.

**All comments must be received by 5pm on 20th March 2017**