School Organisation Consultation

Proposal to expand Epsom and Ewell High School – an academy in the Bourne Education Trust
The Proposal

1. Epsom and Ewell High school, in conjunction with Surrey County Council, is seeking the views of parents, staff, residents and other local stakeholders on a proposal to permanently expand the school in the future.

2. This document is part of a four week consultation process which opens on Monday 6 June 2016 and closes on Friday 1 July 2016. At the end of the consultation period a decision will be taken by the Governing Body, the Academy Trust and the Regional Schools Commissioner as to whether to make the changes described below.

3. This consultation relates only to the educational and organisational debate about providing more school places locally, it is not a planning consultation. Only if a decision is made to expand the school will a formal planning application be submitted; this will have its own separate consultation that will take into account comments about the building proposals and traffic and parking issues around the school site.

4. Details of the proposed changes to the school

5. It is proposed that Epsom and Ewell High School becomes a nine form entry secondary school plus sixth form (9FE) from September 2019 with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 270; and then in September 2021 it increases by a further 1 FE to become a 10 FE school with a PAN of 300. As the school is an academy within the Bourne Education Trust (a multi academy trust), the school is its own Admissions Authority. This means that the governing body of the school determines the admissions arrangements. There is no proposal to change the admission arrangements as part of this proposed expansion.

6. Changes to the size of the school

7. If the proposal to enlarge the school were to go ahead it would mean that from September 2019 Epsom and Ewell High School would admit up to nine classes into Year 7 on a permanent basis. Secondary classes normally comprise of up to 30 pupils therefore there would be a maximum of 270 pupils in the 2019 Year 7 cohort. The older year groups would remain unchanged as they move through the school. In September 2021 the school would admit up to ten classes of 30 in Year 7 and in each Year 7 intake thereafter.

8. Consequently the school would increase in size gradually so that by September 2025 it could be expected to have reached its maximum capacity which would be 1620 students (10 FE in every year group between Y7 and Y11 plus a sixth form of about 120 students).

9. Ten form secondary schools are not unusual across the country or even within Surrey which has seen a large increase in its population over the past ten years. Indeed Epsom and Ewell High School has been a much larger school in the past than its current size. However, if this expansion goes ahead, the school will require some additional accommodation on its site. At this stage we are planning for this to be a mixture of some new building, demolition of some older buildings, and internal remodelling of the school's existing accommodation. The building plans are not yet determined but will be a configuration that would provide sufficient basic classrooms and specialist teaching rooms to enable the school to operate effectively.

10. The details of what is required, including staff parking and school travel plan, are still being developed by architects and with the governors. The building programme will be the subject of a separate public planning consultation once the principle of whether the school will be expanded has been agreed. It should be noted that the school expansion building programme would be funded by Surrey County Council as this is considered to be a project aimed to meet the basic need for more secondary school places in the borough.
Why are we making these proposals?

- **Providing Sufficient School Places**

11. The 1996 Education Act places a duty on Local Authorities to ensure that there are sufficient school places within their jurisdiction; this includes school places in academies and Free Schools. Surrey has had an unprecedented increase in demand for primary school places over the last ten years and Epsom and Ewell Borough has reflected this trend. A number of primary schools within the borough have been expanded in recent years and, as these pupils move into the secondary sector, Surrey County Council needs to provide sufficient school places for them. This is why they have approached Epsom and Ewell High School as a school that is able to expand.

12. The four Surrey secondary schools serving Epsom and Ewell Borough currently have a combined Pupil Admission Number (PAN) of 960 places per year. As outlined in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academy</th>
<th>PAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epsom and Ewell High</td>
<td>240 (8 FE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blenheim</td>
<td>240 (8 FE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Glyn</td>
<td>240 (8 FE boys)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosebery</td>
<td>240 (8FE girls)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. The forecast demand indicates a need for at least three more permanent forms of entry from 2021. Surrey CC are keeping an eye on the data which at present suggests that this should be sufficient for the immediate and longer term demand in Epsom and Ewell.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PAN</th>
<th>+/−</th>
<th>Y7</th>
<th>Y8</th>
<th>Y9</th>
<th>Y10</th>
<th>Y11</th>
<th>Y12</th>
<th>Y13</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>+123</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>822</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>5310</td>
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<td>2016/17</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>+45</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>5353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>960</td>
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<td>894</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>864</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>+16</td>
<td>944</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>845</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>5473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>-42</td>
<td>1002</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>937</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>5586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>-36</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>1006</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>5763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021/22</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>-90</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>1001</td>
<td>1011</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>5934</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022/23</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>-85</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>1055</td>
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<td>1016</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>6102</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-133</td>
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<td>1050</td>
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<td>1011</td>
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<td>615</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>6257</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1058</td>
<td>1098</td>
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<td>1065</td>
<td>1021</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>6430</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The chart above represents the situation in the borough if we do nothing more. It indicates that there is an anticipated shortage of places in Year 7 from September 2019 however this shortage could emerge a year earlier or later from past experience, this will depend on the level of parental preferences that have to be considered at the time. The shaded line represents actual pupils on roll taken from the January 2016 schools’ census. The rest is forecast based on pupil numbers, migratory trends and new housing.

The chart also clearly suggests that there may be a need for other school expansions from 2021. Surrey County Council, as the responsible body for ensuring a sufficiency of school places, will determine how it intends to meet this forecast demand nearer the time.
Why are we proposing that Epsom and Ewell High school expands?

14. The Local Authority has considered all the local schools as options for expansion but has concluded, for a number of reasons, that Epsom and Ewell High School would be the most appropriate school based on its location and site capacity to expand by two forms. This is why Surrey County Council has approached the Governing Body and asked them to consider the possibility of ‘growing’ the school to 10 FE over a period of time.

15. SCC will also be considering if another form of entry at another school is required by 2021 and will work with the four local secondary academies to ensure there are sufficient secondary places as and when they are required.

Ensuring a good quality education

16. When bringing forward proposals to provide more school places, Local Authorities and academy trusts are required to consider expanding existing popular and successful schools. That is to say, schools that have a good or outstanding OFSTED inspection report, a proven track record for providing a high quality education and are regularly over-subscribed.

17. Epsom and Ewell High School was judged to be a good school at its last OFSTED inspection in May 2012. It therefore meets the government’s policy in this regard. Further more the Headteacher of Epsom and Ewell High School believes that by expanding the academy he can offer this high quality education to more local students without compromising on standards, a personalised curriculum for every student, good pastoral care and safeguarding.

Reducing journeys between schools

18. In addition the proposal potentially reduces the need for car journeys by parents as the intention is to provide school places in the urban environment where students can feasibly walk, cycle or use public transport to school.

19. Any proposed new building on the Epsom and Ewell High School site would be located on the existing footprint of the school and not on the playing fields.

Have Your Say

We would like to know what parents, students, staff and residents think about this proposal. There is a consultation response form at the end of this leaflet which can be completed either on line or on paper.

The consultation opens on Monday 6 June and runs for 4 weeks. We are going to hold a public meeting at the school for parents, staff and other stakeholders to come and express their views on this proposal, obtain more information and have questions answered as far as possible. NB we will not be able to give any detailed answers to questions on the design of the building or the mitigation for traffic at this stage; these questions will be best addressed at the subsequent planning consultation meeting (date to be arranged).

Statutory Notice

The relevant Statutory Notice relating to a school expansion will be published in the local press, on the school’s website, www.eehs.surrey.school.org.uk and on the school gates.

Responses to this notice should be submitted to Surrey County Council using the email address below

schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk
The meeting, for anyone interested in this proposal, is as follows:

**Epsom and Ewell High School at 6pm - 7.15 pm on Monday 20 June**

Please complete and return your Consultation Response by Friday 1 July 2016

You can do this in a number of ways:

- By using the Surrey County Council consultation website [www.surreysays.co.uk](http://www.surreysays.co.uk)
- By completing the form attached to this document and emailing it to schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk
- Alternatively, complete a written consultation response form and hand it in to the school office where it will be placed in a confidential ballot box

**Next Steps**

**School Expansion Consultation**

The school will analyse the consultation responses and a summary of them will be included in a report to governors.

The Epsom and Ewell High School Governing Body and representatives of its academy trust will determine whether or not to go ahead with the school expansion proposal. If the decision is to proceed with the expansion, the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) will be formally asked to confirm the expansion.

There is no right of appeal once the decision has been ratified by the RSC. The final decision should be confirmed in the autumn of 2016.

Then the Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement will be asked to approve the budget in terms of the council’s financial commitment to a specific building scheme. The academy trust will then work with SCC to commission the building scheme, including a full transport survey.

**NB This consultation process is separate to any subsequent planning application.** A planning application will be submitted to Surrey County Council’s Planning and Regulation Committee if the expansion is approved. The planning notices will include information on building design and traffic considerations. This separate consultation process will be advertised later in the process on both the SCC and Epsom and Ewell Borough Council’s websites and interested parties will have another opportunity to respond with comments.
Epsom and Ewell High School Consultation Response Form

Proposal to Expand Epsom and Ewell High School (an academy) to 9FE from September 2019 and 10FE from September 2021

Please give us your views. Tick the box that best shows what you think of the following questions. You can write on the other side of this sheet if you want more space to write comments.

Do you agree with the proposal to make EEHS a 10 FE School from Sept 2021?

Agree [ ] Don’t know [ ] Disagree [ ]

Comments:

To help with our analysis of responses please will you tell us something about yourself? Tick the boxes that best apply to you.

- A resident living close/adjacent to the school
- A parent/carer of a child who may in future attend EEHS
- A parent/carer of a child already attending EEHS
- A parent/carer of a child attending another local school
- Staff member at EEHS
- A Governor of EEHS
- Some other link to EEHS
- Someone else with an interest – please give (optional) post code here:

Please return by 5 pm Friday 1 July 2016 to:

email: school.org@surreycc.gov.uk