

Q&A arising from the consultation to expand St Peter and St Paul CE Infant school**1. Would the building negatively impact the forest school and our existing outdoor space?****Answer**

The proposal will not impact on the required outdoor space for a primary school or the forest school provision.

2. How would the parking/additional cars be managed?**Answer**

Parents/carers from St Peter and St Paul's in Chaldon currently travel by car the 3 miles between the schools to drop and collect siblings. This adds to congestion on the main roads in Caterham and means that families cannot make more environmentally friendly choices e.g. walking or cycling to St Peter and St Paul's or to St John's. This proposal may also reduce some of the congestion and parking issues on Rook Lane in Chaldon and along Markfield Road in Caterham.

A robust travel plan including increased wraparound care provision, staggered drop off and collection times, a dedicated pupil drop off zone and cycle parking will also be developed to mitigate traffic.

The school already stagger drop off times. There is an extended drop off time in the morning between 8.35am and 8.55am. Reception pupils are collected at 3.05pm and Year 1 and 2 pupils at 3.15pm. As part of the expansion, the Governing Body are considering extending the school day further and a possible early drop off from 8.25am.

Wrap around care provision is currently offered to 18 pupils across the school week with breakfast club starting at 7.30am and after school club finishing at 6.00pm. Parents are allowed to use the school car park to drop off and pick up pupils attending this out of school provision. The school are looking to increase this provision to enable more pupils to attend as the school expands. This will alleviate pressure on the number of pupils being dropped off/picked up between the main school hours of 8.35am and 3.15am.

Provision for safely parking cycles and scooters will be made.

The proposed car parking layout would formalise the existing parking provision to the north and west of the school buildings and extend the area to the south to provide a total of 26 marked parking bays including three accessible spaces close to the school entrance. This is an effective increase of nine parking spaces.

Car sharing and sustainable travel modes for both parents/carers and staff will be encouraged.

3. How many additional pupils would we have at first?

Answer

With the proposed expansion the school would start to provide Key Stage 2 (Year 3) places from September 2022. The Year 2 class for 2021/22 would transfer into the newly established Year 3 class in September 2022/23.

The additional class from the September 2020 Reception intake would move from Year 2 to Year 3 in 2023 and the new accommodation would allow adequate space as these pupils move through the junior phase.

Each year St Peter and St Paul CE Infant School would increase by 30 pupils and would be operating as a full 1FE all through primary school from September 2027/28 onwards, as shown in the table below.

St. Peter & St. Paul C of E Infant School	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Capacity
2021/22	30	60	30					120
2022/23	30	30	60	30				150
2023/24	30	30	30	60	30			180
2024/25	30	30	30	30	60	30		210
2025/26	30	30	30	30	30	60	30	240
2026/27	30	30	30	30	30	30	60	240
2027/28	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	210

4. Will St John's still consult to reduce their PAN if the expansion does not go ahead?

Answer

Securing an all-through-primary school place has become a more popular option for parents and the expansion of St Peter and St Paul CE Infant School from a 1FE infant school to a 1FE primary school allows the school to adapt to meet the changing needs of their local community.

The proposed expansion allows St Peter and St Paul CE Infant School to offer junior places and in turn supports St John's CE Primary School to remove their Year 3 intake.

This would improve the sustainability of both schools without negatively impacting pupil numbers at other primary schools across Caterham and North Tandridge.

If the proposal to expand St Peter and St Paul CE Infant School does not go ahead, a review of primary place forecasts and the impact of the removal of the Year 3 PAN at St Johns CE Primary would be required. Surrey County Council has a duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand.

The Governing Body of St John's will again review its admissions and, working with the

local authority and Diocese, will act in the best interests of the school to ensure it's long term stability.

5. Can I still send my sibling child to St. John's for KS2 if they're currently in St. Peter and St Paul now as that's what the arrangement was when I applied?

Answer

If there is a decision to expand St Peter and St Paul, then St Johns' Primary School will look to remove their Year 3 intake for either 2022 or 2023. The proposal is to support the future sustainability of both schools.

If St John's has allocated all their available places, places become available throughout the year. Pupils will be able to join the waiting list for a place to become available. Currently, the school has not turned down any applications and hopes this continues to be the case.

6. Will the school be asked to take a bulge class again in the future?

Answer

The proposal to remove the Year 3 PAN at St Johns CE Primary School would provide some additional classroom space and creates headroom for placing additional pupils should the demand for places increase.

7. Will the current bulge class be accommodated for all the way through KS2?

Answer

The table in Question 3 shows how the current bulge class will move through the school. The bulge class is currently accommodated in the former library in the existing school building. A new library has been included in the proposed expansion plans. There is capacity in the proposed new extension for the bulge class until 2025 and then the school will need to review how they allocate their space until the bulge class completes Year 6. A temporary classroom can be provided as a short-term solution if necessary.

8. Could the school have a school bus with collection points to minimise traffic?

Answer

The school is currently exploring local routes for a walking bus which would be ran by volunteers and involve the children being dropped to a designated meeting point and walked to school.

Park and stride options are also being explored to mitigate any increase in traffic. Parents/carers that travel from Caterham, Merstham or Netherne would be able to drive to a location and walk from there to minimise any impact on Rook Lane.

The school would be unable to fund and staff a school bus and this is unlikely to be a preferred option for parents especially for younger pupils.

9. Will Surrey continue to support the school until the phased expansion is complete?
<p>Answer Surrey County Council's Education Place Planning Team maintain regular communication with all schools regarding pupil places.</p>
10. Will traffic and travel plans be looked at until the school is full in 2025?
<p>Answer St Peter and St Paul CE Infant School will regularly review their travel plan and work with Surrey County Council accordingly.</p>
11. Is the site big enough as there will be twice as many children? Will there be enough room for sports and outdoor activities?
<p>Answer Yes, a full feasibility study has been undertaken to ensure that the space complies with the Department for Education's BB103 requirements.</p> <p>This will also be a phased expansion and numbers would increase incrementally.</p> <p>Outdoor learning will also be enhanced.</p>
12. The school opens onto a dangerous bend and it is confronted by a lot of cars, which is quite dangerous for children. Will this be taken into consideration?
<p>Answer The specialists in Surrey County Council's Land and Property and Highways teams would consider these points and these would be factored into the planning application.</p>
13. Are there any proposals for the school to become an Academy?
<p>Answer There are no current plans for the school to academise.</p>
14. Are there any proposals for a SEN unit or nursery? How simple is the expansion?
<p>Answer There are no plans for an SEN unit or nursery. The expansion programme allows Key Stage 2 pupils to be phased in for each academic year.</p>

<p>15. Why don't you build upwards rather than out?</p>
<p>Answer This would have been a consideration for the design team but would have been dependent on the foundations of the existing school and the cost implications. Any plans to build up would raise accessibility issues – the need for a lift for those unable to use stairs for instance. This would add to the capital cost and a long-term maintenance cost for the school.</p>
<p>16. If there is more of a need for crossing the road, maybe there should be a zebra crossing?</p>
<p>Answer This question relates to parents crossing the road from the Village Hall car park opposite the school and suggesting that a zebra crossing would be helpful. The parents that park in the Village Hall car park opposite the school are not typically school parents, but parents of pre-school children dropping off and collect their children from the pre-school which operates from the Village Hall. The pre-school is not part of the school or the expansion plans. The Village Hall car park is not affiliated with the school and on private land. A zebra crossing has not been considered for these reasons.</p>
<p>17. Do you think it is a bit close to make a decision about the proposal in October 2021 especially as the new intake will be from September 2022 and parents have to apply for places beforehand?</p>
<p>Answer The application process opens in November 2021 to January 2022. Yes, it would be tight but during open days at the school parents can make an informed decision once they are aware if the expansion goes ahead.</p> <p>A note of the proposal and the implication on places if any proposal is agreed will also be mentioned in the Admission's booklet, which is online for parents.</p>
<p>18. When will the planning application be in?</p>
<p>Answer The planning application has now been submitted and will be validated and uploaded onto Surreys Planning Portal shortly. All the documents and drawings will then be available for residents to view and comment as necessary.</p>
<p>19. Is it planned for the current Year 1 children to go into year 2?</p>

Answer

The phasing of pupils is shown under Q3.

20. We have been told that the expansion will mean the school cutting down all of their trees and the nearby houses having no privacy?

Answer

The proposal does not require cutting down any of the boundary trees in order to expand the school. The school's maintenance provider would usually carry out a periodic inspection of the trees, and any branches that were dead or dying would be pruned back for Health and Safety of pupils and staff only.