

School Organisation Consultation

A proposal to permanently expand Stoughton Infant and Nursery School from 2 forms of entry (2FE) to 3 forms of entry (3FE)



3 July 2014

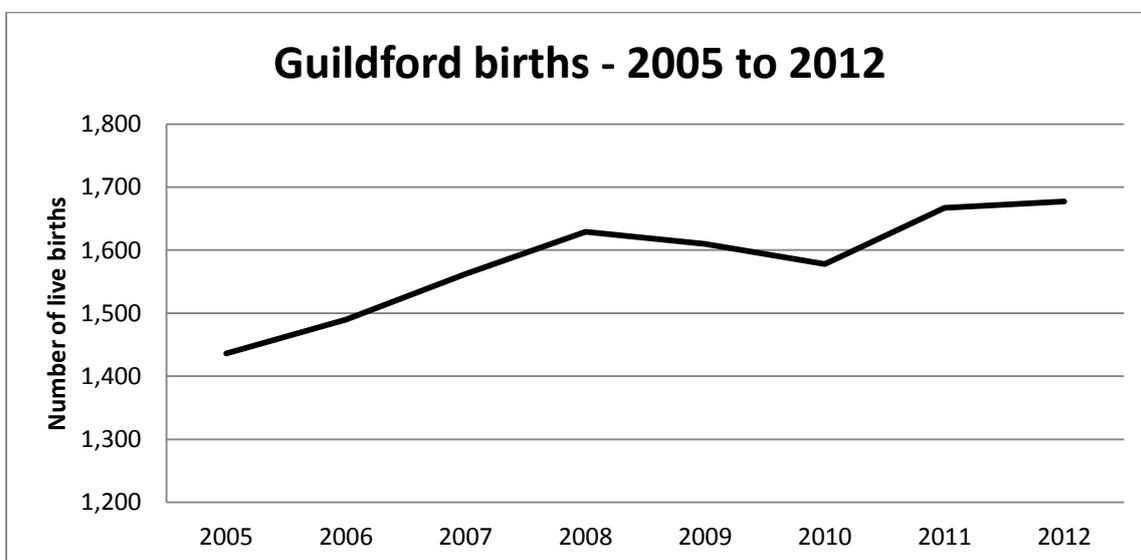


The Proposal

1. Surrey County Council, in partnership with Stoughton Infant and Nursery School, is proposing that the school expands from a two form entry (2FE) infant school to three form entry (3FE).
2. The school would expand from the current two form entry (2FE) with Published Admission Number (PAN) of 60 to an infant school with a PAN of 90. The school would admit 90 pupils in Reception. The total capacity of the school would be permanently increased from 180 to 270 pupils.
3. Subject to consultation, this proposal will become effective from September 2015. Additional accommodation will be provided at the school to cater for the additional pupils joining the school. This expansion will be funded by the Government's Targeted Basic Need programme.

Demand for school places

4. Demand for school places in Surrey has increased significantly over the last decade. Surrey County Council has commissioned several thousand additional school places over the last two years and further places are being added over the next five years.
5. There are a number of different factors that can affect the demand for school places in an area. The most important is the birth and fertility rates. Based on figures provided by the Office for National Statistics, births in Guildford borough have risen by nearly 250 births per year over the last eight years (see graph below). Although the number of births dipped slightly in 2009 and 2010, the number of births has increased again in 2011 and 2012.



6. The increase in applications to Surrey schools in recent years is unlikely to be the result of the number of births alone. There are other factors such as additional pupils from housing growth, inward and outward migration, parental preferences and the changing proportion of parents applying for independent provision. These factors affect the number of applications in any given year and make applications more difficult to forecast.
7. Surrey County Council, as the local education authority, has a duty to secure diversity in the provision of schools and to increase opportunities for parental choice when planning the provision of schools. Parental preferences for places in the immediate local area including at Stoughton Infant School, Wood Street Infant School, Weyfield Primary Academy, St Joseph's Catholic Primary, Guildford Grove Primary, Worplesdon Primary and Northmead Junior have, on average, been greater than the places available over the last three years. All local schools are likely to remain full due to the actual and projected birth rates, projected numbers and the consistent popularity of the schools.

Meeting demand in the local area

8. There have been a number of expansions and additional classes in the West and North Guildford area over the last 5 years. Stoughton Infant School has taken 2 bulge classes (and is taking a 3rd in September 2014), St Joseph's Catholic Primary took several bulge classes before expansion by 1FE in September 2013 and Northmead Junior took a bulge class in September 2011.
9. There is ongoing demand for places in the local area, demonstrated by several years of demand and extra classes. There is a need to meet both future demand for infant places but also to cope with the additional places that have been added in infant schools as they pass into Key Stage 2.
10. We have reviewed a range of options - some of which were unsuitable from a construction or cost point of view or would not provide places in the right area. This has included potential expansion at Guildford Grove Primary and searching for new school sites.
11. In order to meet the need for places we have found a suitable solution across the North and West of Guildford that adds both infant and junior places and ensures that there are sensible routes through from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 for all infant schools in the area.
12. The proposal to expand Stoughton Infant School is in conjunction with a proposal to provide additional places at Worplesdon Primary School at Key Stage 2 only.
13. The increase in places at Stoughton Infant School will reduce the number of Year 3 places available for Wood Street Infant children at Northmead Junior School. The proposal to expand Worplesdon is therefore intended to provide a clear and secure route through to Key Stage 2 for all children attending Wood Street Infant School.

Housing developments and the Guildford Local Plan

14. Guildford Borough Council is responsible for housing in the borough. Guildford Borough Council has carried out initial consultation on their Local Plan and will shortly proceed to public consultation between July and September 2014. This plan will identify how many additional homes may be provided in the borough in the future.
15. The county council is working closely with Guildford planning officers and acknowledges the importance of building capacity into schools to meet demand both now and in the future. This proposal is designed to enable the county council to meet its statutory duty to meet demand for school places in the Guildford area for the current planning period. The local authority continues to work with the borough council on education infrastructure solutions to support the Local Plan as it progresses.

How many places are currently available at Stoughton Infant School?

16. The table below shows the total number of places that are currently available at Stoughton Infant School by year group and in total.

Stoughton Infant School	R	1	2	TOTAL
2013	90*	90*	60	240

* Incorporating an additional 30 pupils in a 'bulge' class

How many additional places are proposed at the school?

17. The table below shows the proposed number of places at Stoughton Infant School and the number of places that would be available at the school in the future. This proposal would create an additional 90 places at the school in total. Stoughton took additional 'bulge' classes in September 2012, September 2013 and will take one further class in September 2014. This means that the school will already have reached full capacity, of 270 pupils, by September 2014. This consultation proposes to make this a permanent change so that the school will continue at this capacity.

Stoughton Infant School	R	1	2	TOTAL
2014	90*	90*	90*	270
2015	90^	90*	90*	270

* Incorporating an additional 30 pupils in a 'bulge' class

^ Permanent change to 3FE

Will the admissions arrangements to the school change?

18. This proposal does not change the admissions criteria for children entering the school at Reception. However a new Published Admission Number of 90 at Year Reception will permit up to 90 new pupils to enter the school at Year Reception. For details of the admissions criteria for the school please visit: <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-admissions>

How will the additional accommodation be provided on the site?

19. This consultation paper is focused on the principle of expansion rather than how the accommodation will be delivered.

20. A modular building is being provided on the Stoughton Infant School site in order for the school to be able to cope with the additional children joining the school in September 2014 in the 'bulge' class.

21. A planning application for this modular building to become permanent will be submitted following determination of this school expansion proposal.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Surrey County Council and Stoughton Infant School would like to know what people in the area feel about the proposal.

You can respond by:

a) Accessing the consultation online on the 'Surrey Says' website:
either by the following link –

<https://www.surreysays.co.uk/csf-schools-commissioning-team/stoughton-infant-school/>

or by going to the Surrey Says website -

www.surreysays.co.uk

and searching for the school's consultation (school name or post code), or by scrolling through the list of open consultations.

b) Completing the consultation response form that is available alongside this document. You can email the form or print it, complete it and send it back to the address below.

Kathy Beresford (Stoughton Infant School Expansion)
Room 326
County Hall
Penrhyn Road
Kingston Upon Thames
KT1 2DJ

FAO Kathy Beresford (Stoughton Infant School) to:
schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

All responses must be received by noon on 15th August 2014

What happens next?

We will hold two public meetings for parents and any other interested parties to discuss the proposals and to hear the views that people have. Meetings will be on the same day in the afternoon and the evening to allow as many parents to attend one of the meetings as possible. As a public meeting anyone who wishes to, may attend. These meetings will be on the following dates. You need not register your attendance prior to the meeting.

- 17 July 2014 – 1.30pm – Stoughton Infant School
- 17 July 2014 – 7.00pm – Stoughton Infant School

Please come and share your views. You do not have to have a child at the school to come to the meeting.

Following the meeting, we will be publishing a Statutory Notice at the school, in a local newspaper, at a local community facility and on the Surrey Says website stating our intention to expand the school. All representations received by the council during the formal consultation period to 15th August 2014 will be reviewed before a final decision is taken by the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning in September 2014.