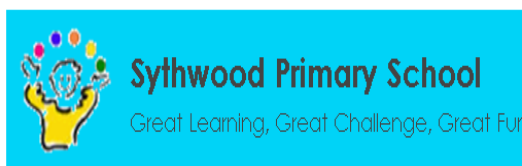




# A proposal on the permanent expansion of Sythwood Primary School to 3 forms of entry by September 2015

June 2014



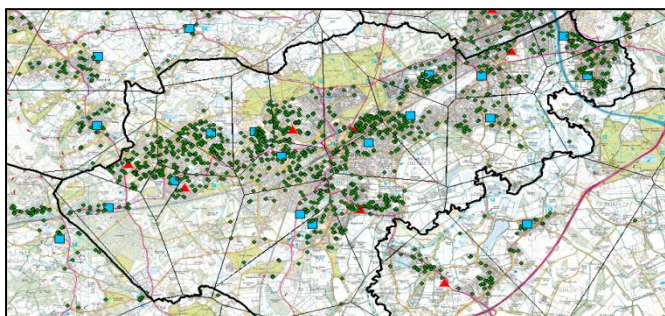
## PART A – THE PROPOSAL

1. The Governing Body of Sythwood Primary School, in partnership with Surrey County Council, is proposing that the school expands from a 2 form entry primary school with a Published Admission Number of 60 (total capacity of 420 pupils), to a 3 form entry primary school with a Published Admission Number of 90 (total capacity of 630 pupils). Additional classroom accommodation would be provided on the existing site of the school to enable this change to take place. Surrey County Council would provide the funding for this proposal.

### Why is this proposal being made?

2. Demand for school places – Most primary schools in the Borough are now either at capacity or are inadequately located to deal with the increasing pressure for school places and new provision is needed for an increasing Woking demographic. The Local Authority is embarking upon the largest school expansion programme the County has ever known having already commissioned or completed projects to double the size of 10 primary schools in Woking over the last 3 years. Despite this work, the demand for school places has exceeded the Local Authority's expectations and projections and further provision is needed for the future.
3. Sythwood Primary School has admitted additional pupils at reception in 2012, 2013 and will do so again in 2014. Plans now need to be put in place to make this arrangement permanent. Should the proposed expansion at Sythwood proceed, the Local Authority is planning to provide Based on revised projections 2011 projections, the County Council is projecting a need a further 630 places in the Borough by 2017.
4. Parental Preference – Sythwood is an Ofsted rated 'good' school. In 2014 the school had 125 preferences (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>) for 60 available places. In 2013 and 2012 these figures were 132 and 125 respectively. The school is not oversubscribed on first preferences alone but there is nevertheless a good case to provide more places at the school given that other local schools (e.g. Goldsworth) have already expanded to their capacity.

5. Location of pupils – Woking primary schools don't have defined catchment areas and although parental preference is important, the Local Authority is mindful that popularity can be transient and that additional provision, where possible, should be located as local to the demand as possible. By plotting the applications



each year on a map and identifying the 'nearest school' it is apparent that more school places are need in the Horsell and Goldsworth Planning area.

	PAN	No of pupils by nearest school 2014	No of pupils by nearest school 2013	No of pupils by nearest school 2012
South Woking	150	183	155	175
Knaphill	270	233	210	236
Horsell and Goldsworth	300	348	369	342
Sheerwater and Maybury	180	293	254	249
Byfleet and West Byfleet	270	268	239	263

6. As well as needing more places in the general area in Horsell and Goldsworth, Sythwood is in good proximity to the existing pupil population. In 2014 there were 115 reception age pupils living within half a mile of the school against an available 60 places. There are only 6 primary schools in Woking located closer to a greater number of pupils.
7. Site issues and capacity – Sythwood is located on a large site – although expansion projects are always a challenge, on face value the site is easily capable of catering for a 3 form entry primary school. Early discussions with SCC Highways and Transport Service indicate that there would be no objection in principle to expansion at this school in terms of road safety issues and there are no significant planning policy constraints associated with the site. A feasibility study will be commissioned to identify how the additional accommodation could be provided at the school in order for the expansion to take place and this will be shared with parents and pupils at the school in due course. It should be noted here that this consultation paper and the proposed consultation meeting will focus on the principle of expansion. Any decisions made by Governors will be subject to planning and funding approvals from Surrey County Council.

### Current number of places available at Sythwood Primary School

8. The official published admission number of the school is 60, however the school exceeded PAN in 2012 and 2013 to cater for additional demand in the Borough. The school also admitted an additional class across Year 1 and Year 2 in 2013 to cater for in year demand. The total number of places that the school has available is therefore as follows:

Sythwood Primary School	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
2013	90	105	75	60	60	60	60	510

### Proposed provision at Sythwood Primary School

9. The table below shows the proposed number of places at Sythwood Primary School if these proposals were implemented. The school would reach its proposed capacity in 2018:

Sythwood Primary School	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
2014	90	90	105	75	60	60	60	540
2015	90	90	90	105	75	60	60	570
2016	90	90	90	90	105	75	60	600
2017	90	90	90	90	90	105	75	630
2018	90	90	90	90	90	90	105	645
2019	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	630
2020	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	630

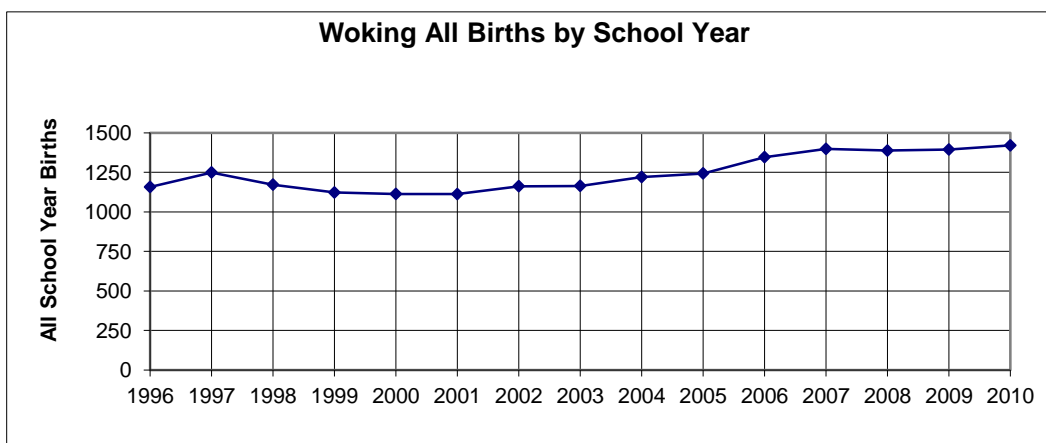
### Additional places created by this proposal

10. Ignoring the additional pupils that the school have admitted above PAN, this proposal would create an additional 210 permanent places at the school in total. The numbers on roll at the school would not increase from 420 to 630 immediately. The school would reach its capacity in 2018 and would increase year on year in the way described in the table above.

## PART B - CONTEXT TO PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN WOKING

### Births in Woking

11. Based on figures provided by the Office for National Statistics, births in Woking dipped from 1997 to a low point in 2001. Births have risen steadily from this point but it is likely that the scale of the increased demand is also due to inward migration into Woking and additional children yielded from housing developments in the Borough. These variables are much more difficult to model and often affect densely populated urban areas to a greater extent.



### Historic Numbers on Roll in Woking (NOR)

12. The table below provides historical information on the total number of available primary places in Reception in Woking (the PAN), compared with the actual pupils in reception year. It also provides the Local Authority's projections in the future (in red). A negative figure shows a shortage of places compared with the current PAN). Parental preferences are given to indicate the demand for places each year.

Year	PAN	Highest Ranking Preference	Pupils in Reception Year	Spare Reception places	Total Places	Total NOR	Surplus Places	% Surplus Places
2006	1039	891	929	110	7005	6559	446	6.4
2007	1054	1107	993	61	6963	6613	350	5
2008	1034	1009	987	47	6941	6580	361	5.2
2009	1034	1056	1023	11	6934	6661	273	3.9
2010	1075	1061	1074	-29	6927	6783	144	2.1
2011	1105	1173	1149	-74	7002	7022	-20	-0.3
2012	1095	1232	1211	-96	7380	7284	96	1.3
2013	1140	1165	1171	-31	7549	7635	86	1.1
2014	1170	1294	1171	-1	7785	7726	59	0.8
2015	1170		1189	-19	7935	7897	38	0.5
2016	1170		1194	-24	8085	8036	49	0.6
2017	1170		1200	-30	8160	8150	10	0.1
2018	1170		1207	-37	8160	8187	-27	-0.3
2019	1170		1214	-44	8100	8179	-79	-1
2020	1170		1221	-51	8070	8228	-158	-2
2021	1170		1223	-53	8070	8286	-216	-2.7

13. It should be noted that the Local Authority's projections for Woking have underestimated true demand from 2011 therefore the 'official' projections above should be read with this caveat in mind. In addition to the proposal at Sythwood, the Local Authority is planning expansions at Brookwood Primary School, West Byfleet Infant and Junior School and Westfield Primary school increasing the number of reception places in the Borough to 1290. Even with these additional projects the LA has indicated that further provision may be required underlining the need for the expansion at Sythwood.

### **Admissions to Sythwood Primary School in the future**

14. This proposal does not change the admissions criteria of the school, only the Published Admission Number and hence how many places there are to offer at the school.

### **PART C - HAVE YOUR SAY**

The Governing Body of Sythwood Primary School would like to know what people in the area feel about the proposal. The school will be holding a consultation meeting to discuss this proposal in a little more detail and to answer any questions that parents, pupils or the local community might have. Details of this meeting are below and all are welcome to attend:

- 18 June 2014, 7pm, Sythwood School Hall

Prior to or following the above consultation meeting, you can respond to the consultation and make your views known in the following ways:

1. Web response - parents and interested parties can respond to the consultation via the following address <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/csf-schools-commissioning-team/sythwood-primary-school-expansion> and respond automatically through the website.
2. Email response - you can put your views in an email and send to the following email address: [schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk)
3. Post – you can write your response using the form below and drop a copy into the school office or you could send a completed form to the following address: Room 326, County Hall, Penhryn Road, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 2DJ

**All responses must be received by 9 July 2014**

### **What will happen next?**

Governors at the school will consider the responses to the consultation and will make a decision about whether to proceed with the proposal before the summer holidays. This decision will be communicated to parents in the last school newsletter of the academic year. It should be noted that any decision from the Governors remains subject to a detailed feasibility study being prepared to demonstrate how the additional accommodation could be created on the school site, and remains subject to funding and planning approvals from Surrey County Council.

## Consultation Response Form

We wish to hear your views on this proposal for Sythwood Primary School to expand to 3 forms of entry (PAN of 90).

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

Please will you tell us something about yourself? Please tick the boxes that apply to you and please tick the box for the school involved.

A parent of a child attending Sythwood Primary School

A parent of a child that may attend Sythwood in future

A parent of a child attending another school

Member of staff at school

A Governor at school

Local Resident

Other

Please will you also give your postcode?

1. More primary school places should be provided in Woking in the future.

Agree

Don't Know

Disagree

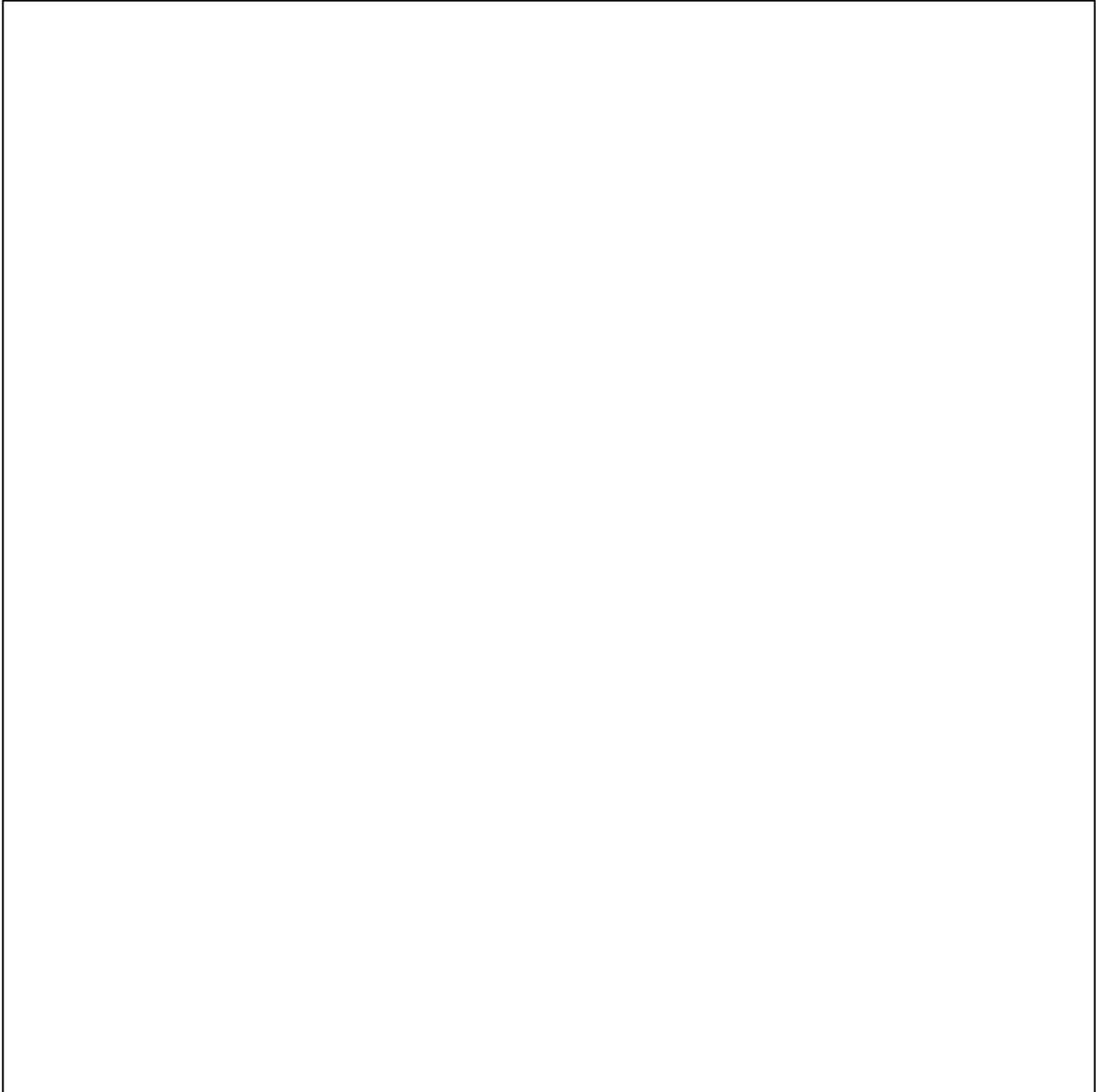
2. Sythwood Primary School should permanently expand to become a 3-form entry primary school by 2014

Agree

Don't Know

Disagree

Please provide additional comments in the box overleaf:



Please respond to the consultation by **9 July 2014** which is the deadline for all responses. If you are providing a written response please drop a copy into the school or send a copy to the following address:

Room 326  
County Hall  
Penhryn Road  
Kingston Upon Thames  
KT1 2DJ

[schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk)