

Tooting Ward

Consultation on the Proposed Expansion of Hillbrook and Smallwood Primary Schools

Wandsworth Borough Council
Primary School Expansion Consultation
Responses to be returned by Friday, 15th December 2011



Introduction

School roll projections indicate that the high demand for reception places in many Wandsworth primary schools is likely to continue. It is probable that the current situation is not a temporary increase but part of a continuing trend set to continue for the next few years.

The new projections for the Tooting area show a significant and sustained shortfall of up to 3FE. These projections are higher than previously reported and indicate that a further expansion should be considered in this area.

It is proposed to expand Hillbrook Primary School from 2FE to 3FE. The proposed scheme could comprise the construction of a new 2 storey extension to the front of the main building to re-house the kitchen and house an additional three classrooms at first floor level. This would include part re-modelling and refurbishment to address the school's existing accommodation deficiencies.

Feasibility studies have confirmed that a 1FE expansion can be achieved by new build at Hillbrook Primary School. The new headteacher and governors are willing to support a permanent expansion, following further discussions with the governors.

Smallwood Primary School is also capable of returning permanently to a 2FE admission by the construction of a new Nursery Classroom. The school has admitted 60 in this academic year. It is proposed that formal consultation on permanent expansion now takes place.

The only other school that would be suitable for expansion in this area is Broadwater Primary School. Whilst the governors have had some reservations about expansion, the building and site lends itself to expansion via a stand alone new building. It is proposed that discussions be started with the headteacher and governors of Broadwater Primary School.

A further option is to explore the possibility of a site for a new primary school serving the Tooting area. A free school may also attract additional capital grant, over and above the Council's formula allocation. At present however, no suitable site has been identified.

As indicated above, it is recommended that full studies are undertaken for Hillbrook and Smallwood schemes and that further consultation is undertaken with the headteacher and governors of Broadwater School prior to considering whether wider consultation should be progressed.

Proposals

The Council is therefore proposing to expand Hillbrook Primary, Upper Tooting Road (SW17) and Smallwood Primary, Smallwood Road (SW17) and is seeking your views on these proposals.

For Hillbrook, the Council's proposal is to permanently enlarge the physical capacity of the school in order to accommodate extra pupils. Thirty pupils will be added to the reception year group each year with effect from September 2012. The current admission number for the school is 60 and the proposed number will be 90, i.e. 3

forms of entry. The admission arrangements for Hillbrook Primary School would remain unchanged.

For Smallwood, the Council's proposal is to permanently enlarge the physical capacity of the school in order to accommodate extra pupils. Thirty pupils will be added to the reception year group each year with effect from September 2012. The current admission number for the school is 30 and the proposed number will be 60, i.e. 2 forms of entry. The admission arrangements for Hillbrook and Smallwood Primary Schools would remain unchanged.

The Council wants to ensure that there are enough primary school places for those who need them and is seeking your views of the proposal to permanently expand Hillbrook and Smallwood Primary Schools.

Funding

The Council is awaiting information from the Department for Education on the capital funding.

Have Your Say

Please give us your views on the proposals by ticking the appropriate boxes on the attached response sheet, alternatively you can email your comments to; primaryexpansionconsultation@wandsworth.gov.uk or visit our website www.wandsworth.gov.uk/bsf/consultations to reply online.

