

Initial Equality Impact Assessment

Department	Education & Social Services (DESS)
Division	Education, Performance & Planning
People involved	Clare O'Connor, John Johnson, Mike Bright, Mellik Clarke, Adam Wells, Teresa Chan

1. What is proposed?

To consult with St George's CE Primary School, SW8 (Queenstown) and the Diocese of Southwark on the proposed expansion of the school from one to two forms of entry, subject to securing the necessary capital, as the next step to secure increased primary school capacity to serve Nine Elms;

To confirm that the proposed new primary school on the Nine Elms site (Queenstown) should be a free school and to mandate officers to work with the DfE to initiate the process for inviting bids from promoters of the new school.

2. What is the rationale?

The latest pupil number projections confirm a levelling out in the demand for primary school places in the Borough from 2018 to 2023. The exception is in Nine Elms, where the scale of new residential developments will result in significant demand for additional school places until at least 2023.

In Nine Elms, the initial demand for extra places will be met by the expansion of St Mary's RC Primary School, SW8 (Queenstown) (expected to be completed by September 2017). By 2020, there will be a need for an additional 1FE of primary capacity in the area, this could either be met by an expanded St George's CE Primary School or by the proposed new school on the Royal Mail site. A further 1FE of primary capacity will then be needed by 2022, depending on which option was selected previously this would

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

either involve opening the proposed new school at 1FE or expanding it to 2FE.

Given the volatility of the forecasts for Nine Elms, it is proposed to consult on increasing the capacity of St George's in the first instance. This will allow the timing of the much larger investment commitment to the new primary school to be determined once the actual demand curve for additional places is demonstrated.

Under current legislation, any new school has to be either a free school or an academy. The capital funding for free schools is provided by the Education Funding Agency, whereas the capital funding for an academy would have to be provided by the Local Authority as there is no DfE capital funding available. Free schools and academies are both subject to the statutory Admissions Code. It is therefore proposed that this school should be progressed as a free school.

3. What information do you have on the proposals?

	List information you have.
Overall	<p>The table below shows the current forecasts that demand for primary school places in Queenstown Ward will begin a steady increase from the start of the 2017/18 school year, then levelling off beyond 2023/24.</p> <p>The development at Queenstown Road which is now in construction will provide St. Marys RC School with an extra form of entry when the school moves to its new 2FE site in 2017/18 (and has been taken into account in the table). This increased capacity will be sufficient to meet demand until the end of the decade and provide a planning margin of between 3 and 32 places across the Planning Area in the years up to 2020/21.</p> <p>From 2020/21, further increases in capacity will then be required. The table assumes that this will be achieved via incremental increases through the addition of single forms of entry in 2020/2021 and 2022/23, keeping pace with the pattern of increase as closely as is practicable.</p> <div><div>Planning Area 5B</div></div>

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

		Year					
				Projected Places	Capacity	Places	Percentage
		11/12	A	108	120	12	10%
		12/13	A	86	120	34	28%
		13/14	A	107	120	13	11%
		14/15	A	110	120	10	8%
		15/16	P	107	120	13	11%
		16/17	P	108	120	12	10%
		17/18	P	118	150	32	22%
		18/19	P	123	150	27	18%
		19/20	P	147	150	3	2%
		20/21	P	158	180	22	12%
		21/22	P	171	180	9	5%
		22/23	P	192	210	18	9%
		23/24	P	210	210	0	0%
		24/25	P	204	210	6	3%
		25/26	P	200	210	10	5%

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

Race

Schools in Queenstown ward	Asian	Black	Mixed	Other	BME Total*	White	Unknown**
Griffin Primary School	12.4%	53.2%	11.6%	4.2%	85.8%	13.5%	5.0%
St George's CofE Primary School	8.9%	48.9%	15.6%	4.4%	77.8%	22.2%	0.0%
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	6.5%	43.5%	8.9%	9.3%	74.5%	23.4%	8.4%
Queenstown Total	9.9%	49.4%	12.0%	5.6%	80.6%	18.5%	4.5%
Primary School Wandsworth Total	16.4%	21.4%	12.3%	3.5%	55.4%	43.1%	3.3%

Gender

Schools in Queenstown ward	Male	Female
Griffin Primary School	49.5%	50.5%
St George's CofE Primary School	51.1%	48.9%
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	54.7%	45.3%
Queenstown Total	51.3%	48.7%
Primary School Wandsworth Total	51.2%	48.8%

Disability

Schools in Queenstown ward	SEN Statement	Education Health and Care Plan	SEN School Action	SEN School Action +	SEN Support
Griffin Primary School	1.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	13.0%
St George's CofE Primary School	0.0%	0.0%	7.6%	8.9%	2.7%
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	1.4%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	23.8%
Queenstown Total	0.9%	0.1%	2.2%	2.4%	13.0%
Primary School Wandsworth Total	1.9%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%	12.5%

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

Age	<p>110 pupils started reception classes in the three schools currently serving Queenstown Ward (Griffin Academy, St. George's CE School and St. Mary's RC School) in September 2014. This figure is expected to grow by 7% by September 2017/18; by 44% by September 2020; and by 91% by September 2023.</p> <p>To keep pace with this increased demand for places, school capacity in the area will need to be expanded by 3 forms of entry by 2022, bringing the total number of places available for children of statutory school age in the primary phase (between 5-11 years of age) up to 1470, compared to the current total of 840.</p>
Faith	<p>St George's is a Church of England school. Its admission policy states that, in the event of oversubscription, 15 'foundation places' are allocated to children of practising Anglican or other Christian families and 15 open places offered to siblings of current pupils or other local families of other faiths on no faith. In recent years, the school has been undersubscribed for foundation places and therefore the remaining places been offered to other local applicants without reference to faith.</p>
Sexual Orientation	Data not currently collected

4. Thinking about each group below please list the impact that the new service will have.

	<u>Positive</u> impacts of service	Possible <u>negative</u> impacts of service
Race	<p>77.8% of pupils at St George's C of E Primary School are BME. This is slightly below the average for primary schools in the ward but above the average for primary across Wandsworth. The additional 1 FE is likely to reflect a similar pattern.</p> <p>There are significantly more BME pupils in the primary schools in the Queenstown ward compared with the borough average for Wandsworth schools. The additional capacity provided by the proposed school will</p>	<p>None identified but any negative impact identified via consultation with St George's C of E or via the development of proposals for a new school in Queenstown will be added to this EIA and will be reported to Executive.</p>

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

	ensure all communities in Queenstown ward and nearby wards have improved access to primary places.	
Gender	48.9% of pupils at St George's C of E Primary School are female. This reflects the average for primary schools in Queenstown ward and the average across Wandsworth. The additional 1 FE is likely to reflect a similar pattern as is the proposed new school.	As above
Disability	2.7 % of St George's C of E Primary School pupils receive SEN support. This is below the average for the ward and below the Wandsworth average. The additional 1 FE is likely to reflect a similar pattern. However, it is proposed to discuss with the DfE and the Regional School Commissioner the scope for an SEN Resource Base, subject to an analysis of need. If agreed, this expectation will be communicated to would-be providers.	As above
Age	The proposals will ensure that there are sufficient primary school places for young people residing in Nine Elms. Without the additional places children would potentially have to travel greater distances to and from school than would be reasonable for pupils of this age.	As above
Faith	St George's is a Church of England school. Its admission policy states that, in the event of oversubscription, 15 'foundation places' are allocated to children of practising Anglican or other Christian families and 15 open places offered to siblings of current pupils or other local families of other faiths or no faith. In recent years, the school has been undersubscribed for foundation places and therefore the remaining places been offered to other local applicants without reference to faith.	As above

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

	The expansion of St George's is therefore unlikely to attract significantly more Anglican children, thereby giving access to places for other families. For those families who do not wish their children to attend a C of E school, the new primary free school is proposed to be non-denominational, which (with Griffin) will double the number of places in non-denominational schools in the Queenstown ward, albeit possibly a year or two later.	
Sexual orientation	Information on this area is not collected but the Council has a particularly strong anti-bullying programme which includes homophobic bullying and will be available to the new school as well as to all existing schools.	As above

5. Is a full EIA required? No.

- Is this a frontline service? Yes
- Is it clear what impact the new service will have on all the equality groups? Yes.
- Overall will the change have a negative impact on any of the equality groups? No.

Comments - Please give the rationale here for not undertaking a full EIA

Updated Equality Impact Assessments will be submitted to the Executive at every subsequent stage of the development of a primary school in Nine Elms. This EIA will be also be updated with the findings of the consultation with St George's. This will ensure any unidentified impact is identified and brought before Members.

Appendix 1 – EIA for Academies and Free Schools Report

6. Through the initial EIA have you identified any actions that needed to be implemented to improve access or monitoring of the policy?
Updated Equality Impact Assessments will be submitted to the Executive at every subsequent stage of the development of a primary school in Nine Elms. This EIA will be also be updated with the findings of the consultation with St Georges.

Signed: 

Date: 9th September 2015

Approved by: Clare O'Connor