



Liverpool College

Consultation Response Site Changes at Liverpool College

Preface

As outlined in May 2015 in the document *Sizing the College Right for Our Future*, the governors considered how the College should respond to the substantial changes in funding and the overwhelming oversubscription and demand for places. The decision of the governors was to pursue a medium and long term strategy to grow the size of the school, in particular by introducing a three form entry primary phase.

For this strategy to be implemented, new and expanded primary classroom facilities will be needed, initially created through a new purpose built Pre Prep school (Reception-Year 2) adjacent to the current Prep School (Years 3-6).

The new build will contain 9 classrooms, administrative, learning resource, and storage space, in a two storey building. It will be attached to the current Sutton Timmis Hall.

This facility will:

1. provide accommodation for additional primary places at Liverpool College and help the local authority provide necessary additional local primary places.
2. improve the educational experience of pupils with accessible purpose built modern classroom and resource spaces for our youngest pupils and allow for efficient use of resources, including staffing, across the primary phase.
3. greatly enhance the safety of pupils by locating the Pre Prep and Prep School adjacent to each other thereby improving pedestrian safety and minimising traffic disruption for parents and local residents.

Introduction

As this proposed new build represents an enlargement of the site to provide more spaces for pupils, the school invited all stakeholders to participate in a consultation process.

The consultation took place between 3 October - 28 October 2016.

The consultation information document was placed on the College website on the Principal's Page and a link provided to it from the front page of the website during the consultation

period. Comments and questions on the proposal were invited and a specific email address was created (consultation@liverpoolcollege.org.uk) to allow stakeholders to communicate these in writing by email as well as via the College's postal address.

Two drop-in information sessions were also held at the College on 10 October and 18 October.

Details of the consultation was communicated through a variety of methods to those stakeholders who could be affected by the proposed new build.

Response to the Consultation

The drop in information sessions were lightly attended although a variety of stakeholders were represented: staff, parents, local residents (including local parents). This enabled attendees to ask specific questions.

Again a limited number of questions and comments were submitted in writing but they represented different stakeholders.

There were no objections expressed to the idea of a new building, and there was recognition that the current accommodation in Godwyn House, while providing a unique setting, is no longer fit for purpose for the education of our EYFS and KSI pupils. The benefits of a new build were recognised particularly by those parents whose children could be educated in the new facilities but certain themes and lines of questioning emerged from the consultation – these are summarised below:

1. Traffic and parking management:

A common question that emerged from different stakeholders was the College's plan for the management of traffic and parking particularly on Queens Drive and surrounding residential areas with the Pre Prep and Prep School on one site.

Suggestions were made for the introduction of a pull in/drop off facility within the school grounds as part of the new build plans to increase pupil safety and the provision of a pedestrian crossing. An increase in public transport links to the College was also suggested.

2. Facilities and operations in a new building:

(i) Catering

Queries were raised about what and where the catering provision would be in the new build and how it would operate in practice.

(ii) Music provision

Concern was expressed about the loss of the Prep School music classrooms to accommodate the new building and the impact this would have on the excellent music provision available in the Prep School.

(iii) IT provision

Questions were raised over plans for IT provision in any new Pre Prep building and also for Prep School pupils to ensure the capacity and diversity of IT resources match the requirements of the primary curriculum.

Suggestions were made for opportunities to share IT resources across the primary phase.

(iv) Resources and classroom design

The need for classroom and other resource spaces to be designed to match the requirements for EYFS and KSI pupils in terms of layout, size and facilities was highlighted.

(v) Green build

How will the environmental impact of any new building be minimised?

3. Use of external spaces and playground facilities:

Clarification will be needed on how external spaces will be utilised in a new build particularly the location of new playgrounds and whether there will be segregated play areas for each key stage.

4. Impact on Prep School and Prep School pupils:

It will be important to manage any building works to ensure minimum disruption to the running and operation of the Prep School, including arrangements for access to playground facilities.

Queries were raised about what changes will be made to the Prep School to eventually accommodate 12 forms.

Next Steps

The suggestions, questions and concerns identified through the consultation and summarised above will be considered by the College's Governing Body and will inform the planning stage of our new build proposal.