

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUNDERLAND

**NOTIFICATION OF STATUTORY PROPOSALS FOR THE ENLARGEMENT OF
PREMISES AND ALTERATION OF THE LOWER AGE LIMIT AT HETTON PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

Local Authority Proposals and Contact Details

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, that it is the intention of Sunderland City Council, Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DN to:

- Enlarge the premises which will increase the capacity of **Hetton Primary School, Moorsley Road, Hetton, DH5 9ND** from 140 places to 210 places with effect from 1st September 2021.
- Lower the age range of **Hetton Primary School, Moorsley Road, Hetton, DH5 9ND** from 4 – 11 years of age to 2 – 11 years of age with effect from 1st September 2021

Hetton Primary School is a maintained primary school maintained by Sunderland City Council.

Hetton Primary School is to relocate to a new 1,935 m2 school building in September 2022. The current school building accommodates 140 primary aged children. The new building will have facilities for 210 primary aged pupils. The school will also provide facilities to offer a nursery provision for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

The new building will be developed on the current Hetton Primary School site, with the existing build operating until its completion. Short term capacity requirements at the school will be met through use of temporary teaching accommodation.

Reason for the Enlargement / Increased Capacity / Lowering of the Age Range at Hetton Primary School

Hetton Primary School is currently over capacity in 4 of 7-year groups. The current school has neither the capacity nor additional support resources to support this ongoing oversubscription.

The current building has insufficient physical capacity to provide 1 classroom per form of entry, with 5 general class bases for 7-year groups. The proposed expansion of the school will provide enough class bases and supporting areas for a 210-place school with potential to accommodate an additional 105 places should future capacity be needed in the ward.

The school is conveniently placed to provide local school places for new housing in Hetton Ward, particularly the ongoing development at North Road and proposed development at Cragdale Gardens.

The school does not currently have a nursery class. Therefore, parents with both nursery and school aged children are currently required to do two drop-offs when the primary aged child is on roll at Hetton Primary School. The nearest nursery to Hetton Primary School is Hetton Lyons Nursery, based in the Hetton Lyons Academy buildings, at 0.5 miles from the school with Hetton le Hole Nursery School approximately 0.7 miles from the school site. Development of a nursery provides those parents with a single site for all of their children. This element of the proposal was noted specifically as a benefit by those who responded to the consultation on the proposals

carried out between 23rd November 2020 and 17th January 2021.

Development of a nursery class within the new build provides a single transitional site for those families who wish for their children to progress through one education establishment.

Effect on other Schools, Academies and Educational Institutions in the Area

Hetton Primary School is already operating above capacity in most year groups. The expansion to a full form of entry in each year group will formalise this. The expansion will initially cater for the pupils on roll and in the longer term is anticipated to respond to increased need for school places from new housing. It is not anticipated to lead to displacement from other settings.

The establishment of a nursery class is initially projected to meet demand from parents seeking a place at Hetton Primary School who would prefer their child to transition from early years through to secondary age at a single site or for those parents who already have a child of school age attending the school and who would like a nursery aged child to attend the same setting. It is initially anticipated therefore that the nursery class will be limited to those parents but this could result in a reduction of those on roll at neighbouring early years settings.

Project Costs

The costs associated with the increased capacity and lowering of the age range at Hetton Primary School are contained within the wider £5.7m project budget allocated towards the provision of a new school building at the current school site.

Current funding legislation allows for the allocation of a cost per pupil revenue growth fund. Subject to funding legislation remaining unchanged from the 2020/21 academic year this provides the facility for any good or outstanding school increasing admission numbers as a result of a defined school place planning requirement to receive the equivalent per pupil funding for any period outside the normal funding round. It is proposed that, subject to the school satisfying the qualifying criteria required to receive support, Hetton Primary School is allocated Growth Funding to meet additional revenue requirements associated with the expansion of primary aged places within this proposal.

Pupil Numbers and Admissions

Hetton Primary School is currently oversubscribed in 4 of 7-year primary aged groups. The expansion of facilities available to the school will ensure enough capacity exists within the school to meet the needs of oversubscribed year groups.

There will be no change to the existing admissions criteria at Hetton Primary School post expansion. The school will continue to offer places according to Sunderland Council's Co-ordinated School Admissions Scheme.

Displaced Pupils

There will be no primary aged pupil displacement because of this proposal. Pupils currently attending Hetton Primary School will continue on roll at the new school site.

Impact on the Community

The community will benefit from the availability of increased primary school places. This will result in more parents and carers within the Hetton Ward benefiting from the opportunity to access a primary school place within statutory walking distance of their home address.

Families moving into the area will have a greater opportunity to secure school places for children across multiple year groups at a single school.

Parents seeking an early-years to primary provision within a single setting will be able to access that at Hetton Primary School. This will also benefit parents who currently do multiple drop-offs for their primary and nursery aged children.

The additional nursery provision will safeguard the long-term provision of nursery places in the Hetton Ward for the future.

Balance of Denominational Provision

There will be no impact on the balance of denominational provision as the school does not have a religious character.

Special Educational Needs Provision (SEND)

The new build at Hetton Primary School will enhance the facilities already available within the school's existing buildings for pupils with SEND. Additional resources will be provided to the school, such as SEN breakout/ quiet rooms, resource rooms and additional hygiene facilities.

Travel

The Council has considered the impact of travel within this proposal. As the school will be redeveloped on the existing school site there are no travel implications associated with this scheme.

Consultation

An informal (pre-publication) consultation upon the proposals took place during the following dates:

- 23rd November 2020 – 17th January 2021

Consultees recommended in the relevant statutory guidance were consulted via a Consultation

Document that was made widely available on the Council's website and the website of Hetton Primary School. Consultees included parents, staff, pupils, the local ward councillors and staff representatives (unions).

The consultation received 75 responses. Of these;

- 61.67% of responses to the question 'Given the current over capacity at Hetton Primary School, do you agree with the proposal to increase the capacity of the school from 140 places to 210 places?' agreed with the proposal and
- 54.79% of responses to the question 'Do you agree with the proposal to lower the age range at Hetton Primary School?' agreed with the proposal.

Submission of Objections and Comments on Proposal

A copy of this proposal can be viewed on the Sunderland City Council website at

<https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/article/13038/School-organisation-consultations>

It can also be requested via:

E-mail: alan.rowan@sunderland.gov.uk

Telephone: 0191 5611372

Post: Retained Education Functions Lead, Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DN.

Within four weeks of the Publication Date below, any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending their written representations:

By e-mail to :-

schoolorganisation@sunderland.gov.uk

Or by post to :-

Alan Rowan

Retained Education Functions Lead

Civic Centre

Burdon Road

Sunderland

SR2 7DN

Signed : Patrick Melia,
Chief Executive,
Sunderland City Council.

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