

School Specific Responses

School: Marlborough Primary School

Planning Area: Central

Proposal: Permanent expansion with effect from September 2013.
(The school will also open a bulge Reception class in September 2012)

School Response

Marlborough Primary School Governing Body is in agreement with the proposed permanent expansion. The Governors are conscious of the fact that the school is very popular with waiting lists for nearly all year groups. Expansion would give more parents the opportunity of sending their children to a popular school.

The main concerns raised were about: the impact of the increased pupil numbers and traffic on local residents; diminished play space on a restricted the site, and; the impact on the school if it were to be rebuilt through the Government's Priority School Building Programme as a 'PFI'.

The Governors felt that that the new build would improve the site and play space and that they would be able to timetable the school day around some of these issues. The Governors concluded their response by stating that there is strong support for rebuild and expansion.

General Consultation Responses (including individuals, organisations and on-line)

A summary of the number of responses is presented in the table:

Yes	No	Not Sure	No Reply	Total
21	12	8	1	42

A number of comments were made in support of the expansion to meet increased demand for school places. Comments were made around a number of the themes, including: the small size of the site; disruption to children's education during building work; more staff parking needed; litter that is left behind.

Officer Comments

The permanent expansion of Marlborough Primary School would provide school places in a good strategic location and would be a popular choice amongst parents wishing to secure a place. The permanent expansion would increase the school from two forms of entry (60 places) to three forms of entry (90 places).

Marlborough Primary School is proposed for complete rebuild. If approved for permanent expansion, the rebuild would accommodate the additional children. The site would be improved by the consolidation of the building footprint, which would allow more playground space to be achieved and available for pupils. Application has been made to the Government's Priority School Building Programme for a complete rebuild of the school under Private Finance Initiative arrangements. The Government's announcement about applications is awaited and has been delayed beyond the original timescales, and at the time of writing this report no date has been given for the announcement to be made. Pending the outcome of the Government's decision, costing for the rebuild of the school has been factored into the school capital building programme.

Permanent expansion is proposed from September 2013 and design and construction work will factor in the need for classrooms with appropriate space to be available for the additional pupils when required.

Officer Recommendation

Statutory proposals are published to increase Marlborough Primary School by one form of entry (30 places) to be a three form of entry (90 places) school with effect from September 2013.